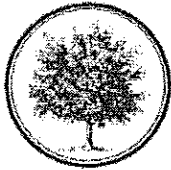


From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: New Buckeye Report Finds Ohio's "Money Bail" System is Dangerous to Communities

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Contact: Lisa Gates, Vice President of Comms

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 11, 2017

(614) 224-3255 or Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org

New Buckeye Report Finds Ohio's "Money Bail" System is Dangerous to Communities

Columbus, OH -- Today, The Buckeye Institute released its latest policy report, *"Money Bail": Making Ohio a More Dangerous Place to Live*, which looks at the need for Ohio to replace its failing cash bail system with proven risk-assessment tools that provide a fairer, more efficient way to keep Ohio's communities safe and secure.

"The traditional money bail scheme is in dire need of reform, it is an inefficient, expensive, unfair means of protecting communities that has proven no guarantee to stopping repeat offenders," said **Daniel J. Dew**, a legal fellow with The Buckeye Institute's **Legal Center** and author of the report. "Under our current system, accused murderers, child rapists, and armed robbers are arrested and released into our communities because they have access to

money, while citizens accused of jaywalking, violating dress-codes, or failing to pay traffic tickets sit in jail for days, weeks, or even months because they have little or no access to cash. We can and must to better."

Recommendations and Alternative Tools

In *Money Bail*, Dew recommends the use of evidence-based, risk-assessment tools to assess the risk an individual poses, such as their criminal history, the offense, and prior missed court dates. These tools give judges greater flexibility and resources to hold defendants accountable pending trial, and to deny release when there is clear evidence that the accused poses significant risks to the community. Dew also suggests a number of alternatives to cash bail, such as electronic monitoring, mandatory counseling, and routine check-ins that allow judges to hold defendants accountable.

Proven Success of Risk-Assessment Tools

The risk-assessment tools Dew recommends have proven successful in communities where they have been used. **Lucas County** has seen more defendants released before trial, more defendants appearing for trial, and less crime committed by those awaiting trial. Defendants arrested while on pretrial release dropped from 20 percent to 10 percent, and skipped court dates dropped by 12 percent, even as the number of people released without money bail doubled.

Where the Current System Failed

Dew also looks at 11 cases in Ohio where the current money bail system failed, including that of **Dragan Sekulic** of Stark County, who, after attempting to kill his ex-wife with his car, was released on \$100,000 bond. While he awaited trial, he shot and killed Zeljka.

On the other end of the spectrum is the case of **Markcus Brown** who spent nine days in jail after being arrested for trespassing when his clothes violated the Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority's dress code. After his arrest, Brown's bail was set at \$150, which his family could not afford. As a result, Brown sat in jail until his mother secured a car title loan nine days later.

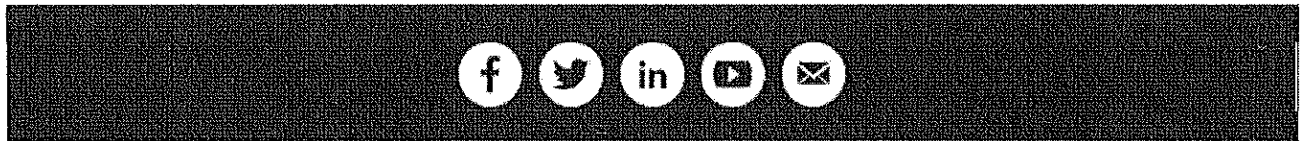
"The Buckeye Institute's expose on money bail is a disturbing indictment of a justice system that often jails poor people for petty crimes, and allows those accused of sexual and violent crimes to buy their way to freedom," said Holly Harris of the **Justice Action Network**. "Fortunately, we now have legislation in HB 439 that would empower judges to make pre-trial release decisions based on the threat an accused person poses to society, and not on how much cash that person can pony up to the court. Given the disturbing case studies on money bail unearthed by Buckeye, some of which led to heartbreaking deaths, it is difficult to imagine any legislator on either side of the aisle voting against this bill."

###

Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution - a think tank - whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.

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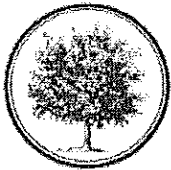
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 3:00 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: The Buckeye Institute: Competition in Ohio's Electricity Market Will Save Ohioans Money and Improve Economy

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THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Lisa Gates, Vice President of Comms

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2017

(614) 224-3255 or Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org

The Buckeye Institute: Competition in Ohio's Electricity Market Will Save Ohioans Money and Improve Economy

Greg Lawson Offers Testimony to Ohio House Public Utilities Committee

Columbus, OH -- The Buckeye Institute's Greg R. Lawson submitted **written testimony** (see full text below) today to the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee on the need to increase competition in Ohio's electricity market and the important reform policies found in House Bill 247.

Lawson opened his testimony outlining the challenge Ohio faces, "Ohio's hybrid restructuring model is unworkable and policymakers must either go back to a fully integrated, regulated structure or complete the electricity market reforms that the General Assembly initiated in 1999."

In making this case, Lawson illustrated the need for further reform to increase competition and lower prices if Ohio is going to continue to experience economic growth.

"Manufacturing is the single largest sector in the state in terms of gross domestic product and manufacturers typically count electricity as one of their largest expenditures." Lawson went on, "Technology companies are increasingly counting Ohio as a candidate for new sites, and a more competitive electricity market should help to attract and retain these investments."

= A

Lawson noted that reforms proposed in House Bill 247 would:

- Allow many Ohio households and businesses to save money on their electric bill and put it towards other uses;
- Permit the **Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** or the courts to issue refunds to customers for electric company charges that are deemed improper; and
- Would increase competition by ending non-transparent price schemes that can facilitate anti-competitive and unfair cross-subsidization between utilities and power plants they own through affiliated companies.

These types of reforms, Lawson says, "Would make Ohio a better place to do business and make it easier for low-income individuals to pay their electric bills."

###

**Interested Party Testimony
Submitted to the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee
on House Bill 247**

**Greg R. Lawson, Research Fellow
The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions
December 12, 2017**

Chairman Cupp, Vice Chairman Carfagna, Ranking Member Ashford, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak about the important electricity market reform policies found in House Bill 247. My name is Greg R. Lawson and I am the research fellow at **The Buckeye Institute**, a free-market think tank here in Columbus.

There is a serious problem at hand in our electric market that requires good policy to fix: Wholesale electricity prices have fallen dramatically since 2009, but the retail price that

customers actually pay has only continued to increase.[1] This problem is holding back the Ohio economy.

Historically, it is now clear that Ohio's hybrid restructuring model is unworkable and policymakers must either go back to a fully integrated, regulated structure or complete the electricity market reforms that the General Assembly initiated in 1999.

Manufacturing is the single largest sector in the state in terms of gross domestic product,[2] and manufacturers typically count electricity as one of their largest expenditures. Making the electricity market more price competitive will help this important sector to compete on the global market and continue to employ Ohioans.

Low-cost electricity is also a key factor for data centers and other infrastructure of the information sector. Technology companies are increasingly counting Ohio as a candidate for new sites, and a more competitive electricity market should help to attract and retain these investments. Critically, the issue of cross-subsidization must be addressed. Electric utilities must not be able to obtain anticompetitive subsidies for affiliate generation. Allowing this to happen undermines the market.

Policies within HB 247 would appear to improve Ohio's present state of competitiveness.

First, it would eliminate electric security plans (ESP). Historically, Ohio's electric utilities have used these plans to inflate rates above the market price. Eliminating these plans would require electric utilities to only charge customers the market price for generation, not an ESP inflated price. This reform would therefore allow many Ohio households and businesses to save money on their electric bill and put it towards other uses.

Second, it would permit the **Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** or the courts to issue refunds to customers for charges that are deemed improper. This provision would force the ratemaking procedure to be more transparent and fairer on the front side by ensuring that customers can be fully made whole.

Third, it would restrict monopoly utilities from owning power plants, even through an affiliate company. While eliminating ESPs alone may be able to limit potential cross-subsidization from these relationships, a requirement that electric utilities fully divest their generation assets would guarantee that utility affiliated generation cannot gain an unfair competitive advantage. Further, in light of the millions of dollars of transition revenues that

utilities have already collected over the years, such separation is less draconian today than it was in the early days of restructuring.

In all likelihood, requiring owners of generation to be fully independent of any regulated utility would increase the competitiveness of the sector and lead to a more favorable outcome for Ohioans over the long run.[3]

In conclusion, Ohio is in desperate need of greater competitiveness, transparency, and fairness in its electricity market. Reforms such as, or similar to, those in HB 247 would make Ohio a better place to do business and make it easier for low-income individuals to pay their electric bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

[1] Russ Keller, "Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement: H.B. 247 of the 132nd General Assembly, As Introduced," Ohio Legislative Service Commission, November 28, 2017.

[2] *Ohio Illustrated: A Visual Guide to Taxes & the Economy*, The Buckeye Institute and Tax Foundation, June 7, 2017.

[3] Joe Nichols and Devin Hartman, *Don't Short Circuit the Ohio Electricity Market*, The Buckeye Institute and RStreet Institute, October 16, 2017.

###

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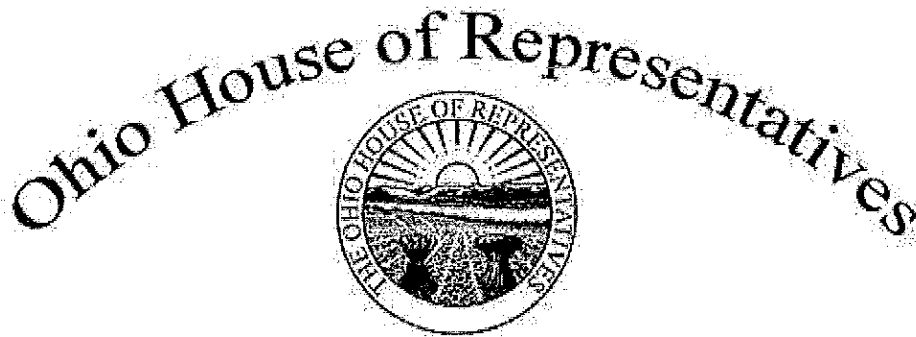
The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Michalowski, Joe
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Michalowski, Joe
Subject: Becker Co-sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments
Attachments: Co-sponsor Request- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments.pdf



Representative John Becker
Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members
From: Representative John Becker
Date: Friday, December 15, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

The following are six separate Right-to-Work related constitutional amendments in no particular sequence. Please join me in co-sponsoring one or more of the below:

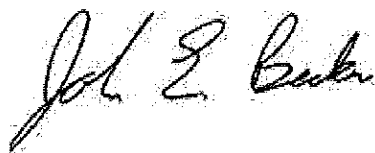
1. Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Additionally, this will tell the world that Ohio is "open for business."
2. Public-sector Right-to-Work – This is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
3. Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.

4. Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers' wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers' money on political activities without workers' consent.
5. Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from engaging in contracts that minimize competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
6. Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

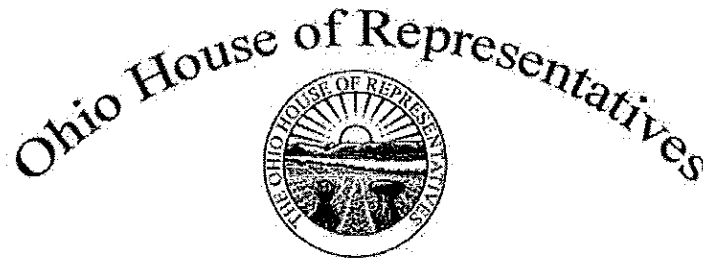
These proposals simply ask the General Assembly to put them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. Twenty-eight states and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states have enacted Right-to-Work laws. Clearly, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union-payments as a condition of employment. Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov. Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. **The deadline to co-sponsor is Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.



John Becker
State Representative
65th House District



Representative John Becker
Ohio's 65th House District

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Date: Friday, December 15, 2017
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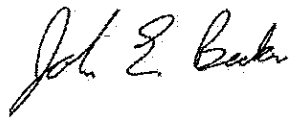
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Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John E. Becker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John Becker
State Representative
65th House District

From: American Bail Coalition
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Snider, Grace
CC: jclayton@americanbail.org
Subject: Buckeye Institute needs to go back to the drawing board on Bail Reform



Dear Ms. Snider,

As government stewards, elected officials, and stakeholders in the safety of the citizens of Ohio, I write to you today concerning the ongoing misinformation regarding bail reform.

You may have recently been given a copy of a report from the Buckeye Institute, entitled **"Money Bail" Making Ohio A More Dangerous Place to Live.** This report contains so many errors and incomplete information that, frankly, it should be discarded. Yet, we wanted to take an opportunity to counter some of the claims made in the report and set the bail reform debate into the proper context.

First, "money bail" is not making Ohio a more dangerous place to live. The bail system in Ohio is essentially the same one being run since statehood. The right to bail is enshrined in the Ohio constitution, and Judges have discretion to set the "type, amount, and conditions" of bail. This is also why 69% of judges in a recent National Judicial College Survey did not agree with the elimination of money bail from the system.

Second, what does the Buckeye Institute's new bail utopia cost? New Jersey's program, given as an example, will run out of money on July 1, 2018 unless the legislature completely overhauls the funding of that program. The costs to implement such a program were in excess of \$1 billion in California. Added to that, not only are there not savings, as both Administrative Judge Glenn Grant in New Jersey and the California Chief Justice concur, the costs of shifting away from monetary bail to risk assessments and supervision will largely not materialize and the cost the State and Counties millions of dollars.

Third, the litany of examples cited by the report as horrifying cases where someone was able to post bail begs the question as to what the Buckeye Institute would do with such cases. Yet, the Ohio Constitution already covers

this, giving the power to prosecutors to prove the danger or risk of flight and deny bail. The report suggests that somehow a risk assessment will fix the problem, yet the results of the assessment do not relieve a prosecutor of having to put up the proof necessary to achieve the result.

The report argues that several jurisdictions are seeing tremendous results due to bail reform, but this relies on the results generated by a private foundation that provides a free proprietary risk assessment tool and does its own evaluation of the results. It should come as no surprise that they think it works. **Instead, in sworn testimony, a national expert testified in federal court that the Lucas County, Ohio program has very high failure rates, including 47% of high risk cases. As a result of that testimony, the attorneys in the case concluded that Lucas County, Ohio had created a culture of "non-accountability" in its bail system.**

In San Francisco, the report issued there found that 27% of defendants did not show up under the risk assessment model. In New Jersey, the state has failed to release any numbers, and the report's citation to crime figures does not prove that bail reform has anything to do with that since New Jersey's prison population has declined every year for 15 years - and the population had been declining by double digits leading up to bail reform. Of course, New Jersey's algorithm is releasing prior felons in possession of firearms, counting them as low risk, similar to what is going on in New Mexico.

Risk assessments are indeed not a magic bullet, and there have been serious criticisms lodged against them which the Buckeye Institute report completely ignores. Researchers at New York University concluded: **"The use of such systems by public agencies raises serious due process concerns, and at a minimum they should be available for public auditing, testing, and review, and subject to accountability standards."** Former US Attorney General Eric Holder has also cautioned jurisdictions who using risk assessments saying they "may exacerbate unwarranted and unjust disparities that are already far too common in our criminal justice system and in our society." Several additional recent studies and experts have called into question the race and gender neutrality of such algorithms, and the jury is certainly still out on that question. Indeed the utter lack of transparency of such algorithms is of serious concern.

The Buckeye Institute decides to then demean the bail industry for helping persons exercise their right to bail in Ohio and provide accountability to the Courts. The report cites no statistics on the effectiveness of surety bail in Ohio. That's not to say that adjustments cannot be made, but national data as well as data in Ohio back up the fact that private bail is effective and efficient because it is typically a third-party benefit provided to the State and a defendant at no cost to the State.

Sadly, the Buckeye Institute has sunk to the level of citing newspaper articles as some proof of the key points it makes. It does such surface-level analysis that clearly the conclusion informed the selection of the “research” that is cited. For example, the fact that 57% of persons in jail are awaiting trial tells us nothing—how many of those persons are on a non-monetary hold? Or, what is their prior criminal history, and what would the risk assessment say about them based thereon? How many are there because their attorneys are advising them to take a time-served deal?

The Buckeye Institute needs to go back to the drawing board with its assessment of bail reform. Moving away from “money bail” has not proven to deliver on its promises. While adjustments to the system can always be made, putting our blind faith in “black-box” algorithms to fix the problem is not only unproven, it is simply naïve.

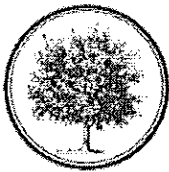
Sincerely,

Jeff Clayton
Executive Director
American Bail Coalition
(877) 958-6628

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 7:04 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: New Buckeye Report Finds Occupational Licensing Hits Older and Lower-Income Workers Hardest

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THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Lisa Gates, Vice President of Comms

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December 18, 2017

(614) 224-3255 or Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org

New Buckeye Report Finds Occupational Licensing Hits Older and Lower-Income Workers Hardest

Columbus, OH -- Today, The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center released its latest policy report, *Still Forbidden to Succeed: The Negative Effects of Occupational Licensing on Ohio's Workforce*. The report found that the burden of Ohio's occupational licensing requirements has a greater impact on middle-aged and low-income workers, and those without a college degree. In essence, occupational licensing erects barriers to employment to those most in need of good-paying jobs.

"This research offers more evidence of the negative impact of occupational licensing. We have known for years that licensing requirements reduce job creation in Ohio and make it harder for people to get jobs," said Greg R. Lawson, a research fellow at The Buckeye Institute and one of the authors of the report. "This study shows that licensing requirements

also impose a disproportionate burden on job seekers -- placing a particularly onerous burden on low-income, minority, and non-college educated Ohioans."

Using a macroeconomic dynamic scoring model -- developed by economists at Buckeye's **Economic Research Center** -- and data collected by the **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics**, the report's authors discovered that Ohio's licensing requirements have prevented more than 7,000 people between the ages of 25-45 from pursuing licensed occupations, and has discouraged people from migrating to Ohio to enter the job market. The authors also discovered that high licensing costs keep workers from good-paying professions, and suggests that without such costs more workers would find employment.

Still Forbidden to Succeed was authored by Dr. Orphe Pierre Divounguy, former economist with The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center; Greg R. Lawson, research fellow at The Buckeye Institute; and Bryce Hill, a former economic research assistant with the Economic Research Center. This new study builds on Buckeye's previous research on occupational licensing, *Forbidden to Succeed: How Licensure Laws Hold Ohioans Back*.

###

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Monday, December 18, 2017

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- [Kasich Names Laubert Acting Director of ODA](#)
- [Senate Plans to Address Voting Machine Funding, Obhof Says](#)
- [Controlling Board Approves Combined DYS/DRC Office Lease](#)
- [IG Chides DAS for IT Procurement Practices](#)
- [Becker Proposes Six Right to Work Constitutional Amendments](#)
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From: Susan Carleson
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:30 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: ACRU hosts voting policy and legislative seminar at ALEC

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**The American
Civil Rights Union**



**Voting
Integrity
Institute**

The ACRU hosted a voting integrity policy and legislative seminar at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) winter conference. More details found at the [ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

LEAD

ACRU Focus: Legislators Not Shy in Pushing 'Model' Bills

At the behest of the American Civil Rights Union, legislators across the nation who belong to the American Legislative Exchange Council could be sponsoring bills in the next couple of years requiring local election commissions to take a closer look at people who miss jury duty. "All we want is honest voting," says Susan Carleson, chairman and CEO of the American Civil Rights Union, which put on a voter integrity

seminar during the ALEC 2017 States & Nation Policy Summit held at Nashville's Omni Hotel.

STATES

Florida: Experts: Broward's elections chief broke law in destroying ballots

The election supervisor in Florida's second-most populous county broke the law by destroying ballots cast in last year's congressional primary.

North Carolina: 12 indicted in Alamance County for voting as felons

Police in North Carolina are seeking people accused of voting in the 2016 general election while still on felony probation or post-release supervision. A grand jury had indicted 12 people for violating state election laws.

New York: Developers Sentenced To Prison for Voter Fraud

A federal judge sentenced a developer to ten months in prison, a year of supervised release, 400 hours of community service and a \$20,000 fine, for the fraudulent registration of voters.

Wisconsin: After Report, GOP leaders of Legislature Calling for Ethics and Elections Leaders to resign

The fate of Wisconsin's Elections and Ethics commission administrators may come down to a highly unusual and dramatic vote in the state Senate. Senate Majority

Leader Scott Fitzgerald says if they don't resign, he will schedule a vote next month to reject their confirmation.

West Virginia: New voter ID law coming to the Mountain State

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A new voter ID law will soon be going into effect in West Virginia. Beginning January 1, the state's new voter ID law will be going into effect.

REDISTRICTING

Supreme Court agrees to hear Maryland redistricting case

The Supreme Court said that it will hear a challenge to Maryland's congressional districts brought by seven Republican voters who say the state's 2011 redistricting violated their First Amendment rights.

The American Civil Rights Union

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Alexandria, VA 22314

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Subject: ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: ACRU hosts voting policy and legislative seminar at ALEC

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ACRU Focus: Legislators Not Shy in Pushing 'Model' Bills

At the behest of the American Civil Rights Union, legislators across the nation who belong to the American Legislative Exchange Council could be sponsoring bills in the next couple of years requiring local election commissions to take a closer look at people who miss jury duty. "All we want is honest voting," says Susan Carleson, chairman and CEO of the American Civil Rights Union, which put on a voter integrity

seminar during the ALEC 2017 States & Nation Policy Summit held at Nashville's Omni Hotel.

STATES

Florida: Experts: Broward's elections chief broke law in destroying ballots

The election supervisor in Florida's second-most populous county broke the law by destroying ballots cast in last year's congressional primary.

North Carolina: 12 indicted in Alamance County for voting as felons

Police in North Carolina are seeking people accused of voting in the 2016 general election while still on felony probation or post-release supervision. A grand jury had indicted 12 people for violating state election laws.

New York: Developers Sentenced To Prison for Voter Fraud

A federal judge sentenced a developer to ten months in prison, a year of supervised release, 400 hours of community service and a \$20,000 fine, for the fraudulent registration of voters.

Wisconsin: After Report, GOP leaders of Legislature Calling for Ethics and Elections Leaders to resign

The fate of Wisconsin's Elections and Ethics commission administrators may come down to a highly unusual and dramatic vote in the state Senate. Senate Majority

Leader Scott Fitzgerald says if they don't resign, he will schedule a vote next month to reject their confirmation.

West Virginia: New voter ID law coming to the Mountain State

= A

A new voter ID law will soon be going into effect in West Virginia. Beginning January 1, the state's new voter ID law will be going into effect.

REDISTRICTING

Supreme Court agrees to hear Maryland redistricting case

The Supreme Court said that it will hear a challenge to Maryland's congressional districts brought by seven Republican voters who say the state's 2011 redistricting violated their First Amendment rights.

The American Civil Rights Union

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

= 9

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From: We Are Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

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December 19, 2017

Dear Representative Smith,

As Chairman of We Are Ohio, I am writing to ask you not to sign on as a co-sponsor to Representative John Becker's anti-worker legislation and to oppose Rep. Becker's efforts to hurt working families in your district and across Ohio.

Rep. Becker, we believe, is pursuing an anti-worker agenda pushed by out-of-state interests like the Koch brothers, Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

He has outlined six separate constitutional amendments that are all designed to hurt workers, lower wages, decrease safety in the workplace and cause further economic insecurity for the people that you serve.

On behalf of We Are Ohio, I'm asking you to stand for workers in your district and our state and to stand against these out-of-state parties. I'm sure you would agree that Ohio elected officials should represent the people of Ohio, not out of state interests.

We Are Ohio was formed in 2011 when a similar threat to workers' security was passed by the Ohio General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Kasich. We asked the citizens to veto Senate Bill 5 that year and restore collective bargaining rights to public sector employees, and they responded with historic numbers.

Nearly 1.3 million Ohioans signed petitions to put the citizens veto on the ballot, 17,000 Ohioans volunteered for the campaign and, on Election Day, 2.1 million Ohioans voted to veto Senate Bill 5 by a 62-38 margin.

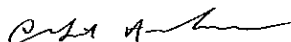
We Are Ohio has remained a force since then. We have held meetings all across the state, have a huge online presence and maintain a database and email list of nearly 1 million voters who agreed with us in 2011.

We believe that the prudent course here is for the legislature to steer away from any anti-worker laws, amendments or ballot initiatives and we ask for your support.

Governor Kasich has acknowledged that such legislation does not attract business to our great state.

I'm respectfully asking you to tell Representative Becker that his ideas are harmful and divisive and that we don't want history to repeat itself.

= 9 Sincerely,



Christopher Mabe
Chairman - We Are Ohio

We Are Ohio
545 E. Town St.
Columbus, OH 43215

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1. The first part of the document is a list of the names of the members of the committee who have been appointed to study the problem of the shortage of housing in the city of New York. The names are as follows: Mr. John F. Kennedy, Mr. Robert F. Kennedy, Mr. John J. Foy, Mr. John P. Jones, Mr. John A. Lindsay, Mr. John H. Johnson, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Mr. John W. Aldrich, Mr. John C. Calhoun, Mr. John B. Stennis, Mr. John F. Kennedy, Mr. Robert F. Kennedy, Mr. John J. Foy, Mr. John P. Jones, Mr. John A. Lindsay, Mr. John H. Johnson, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Mr. John W. Aldrich, Mr. John C. Calhoun, Mr. John B. Stennis.

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Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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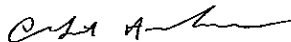
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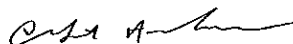
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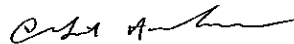
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Columbus, OH 43215

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From: American Bail Coalition
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:35 PM
To: Snider, Grace
CC: jclayton@americanbail.org
Subject: Buckeye Institute needs to go back to the drawing board on Bail Reform



Dear Ms. Snider,

As government stewards, elected officials, and stakeholders in the safety of the citizens of Ohio, I write to you today concerning the ongoing misinformation regarding bail reform.

You may have recently been given a copy of a report from the Buckeye Institute, entitled **"Money Bail" Making Ohio A More Dangerous Place to Live**. This report contains so many errors and incomplete information that, frankly, it should be discarded. Yet, we wanted to take an opportunity to counter some of the claims made in the report and set the bail reform debate into the proper context.

First, "money bail" is not making Ohio a more dangerous place to live. The bail system in Ohio is essentially the same one being run since statehood. The right to bail is enshrined in the Ohio constitution, and Judges have discretion to set the "type, amount, and conditions" of bail. This is also why 69% of judges in a recent National Judicial College Survey did not agree with the elimination of money bail from the system.

Second, what does the Buckeye Institute's new bail utopia cost? New Jersey's program, given as an example, will run out of money on July 1, 2018 unless the legislature completely overhauls the funding of that program. The costs to implement such a program were in excess of \$1 billion in California. Added to that, not only are there not savings, as both Administrative Judge Glenn Grant in New Jersey and the California Chief Justice concur, the costs of shifting away from monetary bail to risk assessments and supervision will largely not materialize and the cost the State and Counties millions of dollars.

Third, the litany of examples cited by the report as horrifying cases where someone was able to post bail begs the question as to what the Buckeye Institute would do with such cases. Yet, the Ohio Constitution already covers

this, giving the power to prosecutors to prove the danger or risk of flight and deny bail. The report suggests that somehow a risk assessment will fix the problem, yet the results of the assessment do not relieve a prosecutor of having to put up the proof necessary to achieve the result.

The report argues that several jurisdictions are seeing tremendous results due to bail reform, but this relies on the results generated by a private foundation that provides a free proprietary risk assessment tool and does its own evaluation of the results. It should come as no surprise that they think it works. **Instead, in sworn testimony, a national expert testified in federal court that the Lucas County, Ohio program has very high failure rates, including 47% of high risk cases. As a result of that testimony, the attorneys in the case concluded that Lucas County, Ohio had created a culture of "non-accountability" in its bail system.**

In San Francisco, the report issued there found that 27% of defendants did not show up under the risk assessment model. In New Jersey, the state has failed to release any numbers, and the report's citation to crime figures does not prove that bail reform has anything to do with that since New Jersey's prison population has declined every year for 15 years - and the population had been declining by double digits leading up to bail reform. Of course, New Jersey's algorithm is releasing prior felons in possession of firearms, counting them as low risk, similar to what is going on in New Mexico.

Risk assessments are indeed not a magic bullet, and there have been serious criticisms lodged against them which the Buckeye Institute report completely ignores. Researchers at New York University concluded: **"The use of such systems by public agencies raises serious due process concerns, and at a minimum they should be available for public auditing, testing, and review, and subject to accountability standards."** Former US Attorney General Eric Holder has also cautioned jurisdictions who using risk assessments saying they "may exacerbate unwarranted and unjust disparities that are already far too common in our criminal justice system and in our society." Several additional recent studies and experts have called into question the race and gender neutrality of such algorithms, and the jury is certainly still out on that question. Indeed the utter lack of transparency of such algorithms is of serious concern.

The Buckeye Institute decides to then demean the bail industry for helping persons exercise their right to bail in Ohio and provide accountability to the Courts. The report cites no statistics on the effectiveness of surety bail in Ohio. That's not to say that adjustments cannot be made, but national data as well as data in Ohio back up the fact that private bail is effective and efficient because it is typically a third-party benefit provided to the State and a defendant at no cost to the State.

Sadly, the Buckeye Institute has sunk to the level of citing newspaper articles as some proof of the key points it makes. It does such surface-level analysis that clearly the conclusion informed the selection of the “Oresearch” that is cited. For example, the fact that 57% of persons in jail are awaiting trial tells us nothing—how many of those persons are on a non-monetary hold? Or, what is their prior criminal history, and what would the risk assessment say about them based thereon? How many are there because their attorneys are advising them to take a time-served deal?

The Buckeye Institute needs to go back to the drawing board with its assessment of bail reform. Moving away from “money bail” has not proven to deliver on its promises. While adjustments to the system can always be made, putting our blind faith in “black-box” algorithms to fix the problem is not only unproven, it is simply naïve.

Sincerely,

Jeff Clayton
Executive Director
American Bail Coalition
(877) 958-6628

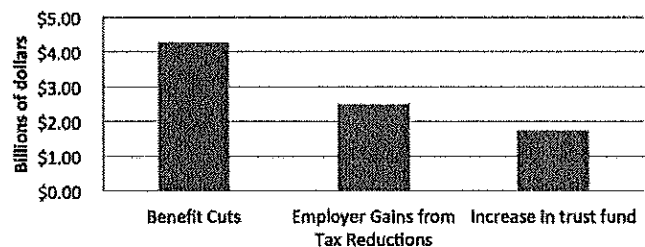
From: Policy Matters Ohio
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 5:24 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Our latest e-news: Hashtags, hiring and more

Policy Matters Ohio

A roundup of happenings at Policy Matters Ohio.....

#Nation'sWorst - Research Director Zach Schiller exposed an egregious assault on unemployment compensation that would make Ohio's system one of the worst in the country in many ways, slashing benefits, hacking eligibility, and cutting employer taxes. Zach's and researcher Hannah Halbert's dogged reporting on House Bill 394 - the worst anti-worker bill since the SB5 attack on collective bargaining - sparked statewide news coverage. Major daily newspapers editorialized against the bill, some more than once. Our allies at Advocates for Ohio's Future and in the labor movement testified and issued phenomenal action alerts. Opponents created a hashtag #StartOver394. The backlash slowed the bill, and led lawmakers to make several amendments. But this will be a train wreck if Ohio families don't derail it.

HB 394 Funding Changes to the Unemployment Compensation System, 2017-2025



Hurting a good thing - Senior project director Wendy Patton's recent report found that provisions in the Ohio budget would reverse progress under Medicaid expansion. Expanding Medicaid has delivered health insurance to more than 650,000 Ohioans, saved money, and brought federal dollars into the state. But lawmakers are seeking a waiver from the federal government that would impose premiums and penalties on patients. This will end up causing tens of thousands to lose health-care coverage, as studies have

repeatedly found. "This will work against the good health results Ohio has seen with Medicaid expansion," Patton said.

Weatherize it - Since Ohio froze clean-energy and efficiency standards in 2014, electric utility investment in low-income home weatherization has declined by 26 percent. That's the upshot of a recent report written by Policy Matters' Amanda Woodrum, in collaboration with NextGen Climate America and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy. Weatherization reduces the need for struggling families to seek utility payment assistance and creates jobs in Ohio's energy economy. If Ohio weatherized 30,000 homes of customers in payment-assistance programs each year for 13 years, we'd create nearly 2,400 jobs and produce roughly \$1.77 billion in savings for Ohio families.

Jobs crawling back - Job growth in Ohio continues to lag the national rate, but the last few months have brought solid gains. The state added 15,200 jobs in December, the third straight month of strong growth, our workforce researcher Hannah Halbert reports in the latest JobWatch. The late-year rally followed very slow growth in 2015. But it will take many more quarters of good results to get Ohio firmly on track. We have added jobs at a rate slower than the nation's since the start of the 2007 recession. U.S. jobs have grown by 3.5 percent since then, while the Ohio rate stands at 0.6 percent.


Zombie power plants - The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is considering forcing FirstEnergy ratepayers to subsidize two outdated, inefficient power plants that can't produce energy at competitive rates. Researcher Michael Shields described the misguided arrangement to keep the two plants in business - the coal-fired W.H. Sammis plant on the Ohio River and the Davis-Besse nuclear plant near Toledo. "It's a mistake to make First Energy customers pay for this inefficient bailout deal," Michael wrote.

Join our crew: Policy Matters is hiring an outreach coordinator now in Cleveland and recruiting people with a master's degree to take part in an amazing state policy fellowship where you could be placed in our Cleveland or Columbus office starting next fall. The fellowship application deadline is Feb. 8. Check 'em out!

Keep clicking! - We love our social media pals. Keep growing the movement by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter.

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Policy Matters Ohio | Columbus | 43215 | Cleveland | OH | 44114

From: Smith, Kristen
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2016 8:15 AM
Subject: E-Clips for 2/2/2016

HOUSE E-CLIPS 02/02/16



LABOR-BACKED GROUP REMINDS OHIOANS OF UNION LAW'S DEFEAT

A labor-backed group that helped defeat collective bargaining restrictions in Ohio says it's using the five-year anniversary of the union law to remind supporters to stay active and engaged in its efforts.

OHIO SUPREME COURT HEARS INJURY LAWSUIT OVER POLICE CHASE

The Ohio Supreme Court will hear arguments in the case of a woman who sued police over injuries she suffered after a high-speed chase ended with a burglary suspect colliding with her car.

OHIO PROSECUTOR SEEKS NEW LAW ON POLICE USE-OF-FORCE PROBES

A county prosecutor in Cleveland wants the Ohio Legislature to amend state laws to allow the Ohio attorney general to present deadly police use-of-force cases to grand juries.

OHIO COURT APPROVES CLASS ACTION IN SPEED CAMERA CASE

A state appeals court approved class action status on Monday for thousands of motorists fined for speeding in a southwest Ohio village with citations issued from automatic camera enforcement.

LEGAL COSTS INVOLVING CONVICTED OHIO JUDGE COULD REACH \$1.7M

The cost of court cases brought for and against a juvenile court judge in southwest Ohio who was convicted of a felony charge after a legal battle over her election as judge could reach nearly \$1.7 million.



WITH FOCUS NOW ON NEW HAMPSHIRE, FOR KASICH IT'S DO OR DIE

Ohio Gov. John Kasich knows his presidential campaign won't survive a poor showing in next week's New Hampshire primary, and his schedule reflects it.

GROVE CITY SENDS 'PUPPY MILL' BILL BACK FOR MORE WORK

The sponsor of legislation that would have banned the sale of "puppy mill" animals in Grove City withdrew the proposal Monday night, vowing to come up with "a clean ordinance."

OHIO'S HIGHER PRESCHOOL SPENDING STILL LAGS MOST STATES

Ohio's spending on public preschool programs increased this year, like most states.

KASICH TO MAKE HEAVY PUSH IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AHEAD OF PRIMARY

It's do or die for Ohio Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign over the next week in New Hampshire, and his schedule reflects it.

OHIO POLITICS NOW: A LOOK AT IOWA AND BEYOND TO NEW HAMPSHIRE

Now that people are finally going to start voting (or caucusing as the case is in Iowa today) we get a look at how much the presidential candidates have to get their word out to voters.

OHIO POLITICS NOW: 'THE REAL RACE BEGINS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE' KASICH CAMPAIGN SAYS

A couple of surprises from the Iowa caucuses could affect how Ohio Gov. John Kasich fares in the New Hampshire primary one week from today.

KASICH GETS MOST OF HIS CAMPAIGN CASH FROM OHIO

Ohio Gov. John Kasich may not be leading most other presidential candidates in fundraising, but he can take some comfort in the fact that he's doing far better than any of them in the state that twice elected him governor.

MARY TAYLOR COMMITTEE RAISED \$146,500 LAST YEAR

Onward Ohio, the nonprofit political organization formed by Republican Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor to elevate her visibility ahead of a potential run for governor in 2018, raised six-figures in a few months.

Dayton Daily News
www.daytondailynews.com

KASICH DONORS INCLUDE SCHWARZENEGGER

Former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was among the \$2,700 donors to Republican Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign committee, records filed with the Federal Election Commission Sunday show.

THE PLAIN DEALER

JOHN KASICH'S TEAM ON IOWA CAUCUS FINISH: 'THE REAL RACE BEGINS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE'

Ohio Gov. John Kasich had no expectations for the Iowa caucuses.

IOWA IN THE BOOKS, NEW HAMPSHIRE IS NEXT, AND JOHN KASICH IS ALREADY LOOKING TO SOUTH CAROLINA: OHIO POLITICS ROUNDUP

Iowa is done. New Hampshire is next. John Kasich smacks down his super PAC.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES JOIN JOHN KASICH ON NEW HAMPSHIRE CAMPAIGN TRAIL: WHAT TO WATCH FOR TUESDAY

With the Iowa caucuses over, many presidential candidates will spend Tuesday in New Hampshire, including Republicans Jeb Bush, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, and Donald Trump, as well as Democrats Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders.

REPUBLICAN LOBBYING FIRM OPENS CLEVELAND OFFICE, HIRES TOP CUYAHOGA GOP OFFICIAL

A Republican lobbying firm with Cleveland roots is expanding its presence here by opening a Playhouse Square office and hiring Cuyahoga County's top GOP official.

THE ENQUIRER

IOWA CAUCUS SURPRISES MAY HURT JOHN KASICH'S NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY EFFORT

John Kasich gained only about 2 percentage points in the Iowa caucus Monday night, but so did his top rivals, boosting his campaign's hope for a strong showing in New Hampshire.

TWO GOPERS FEUD OVER LIQUOR CABINET

GOP challenger Courtney Combs says Rep. Wes Retherford treated the statehouse like a frat house, but the incumbent argues that one drink cabinet in his office wasn't improper.

IN NH, KASICH ADS LEAD TO ANGST

John Kasich says his rivals should follow his lead and call on the super PACs supporting them to take down negative advertisements.

THE BLADE One of America's Great Newspapers

KASICH DIGS IN FOR FINAL STRETCH IN N.H.

Gov. John Kasich has started his final week in New Hampshire, banking on a breakout performance for his presidential aspirations.

CVS TO SELL OVERDOSE ANTIDOTE TO ANYONE

Christa Lammers told a packed audience of politicians, local law enforcement, health-care workers, and substance abuse officials Monday that her brother Jeffrie Shirey, 37, was a heroin addict.



OHIO HIGH COURT PACKS DRILLING RIGHTS IN YEARS-LONG CASE

A years-long battle over oil and gas leases ended last month when the Ohio Supreme Court upheld contract language that underpins drilling rights on thousands of properties across the state.

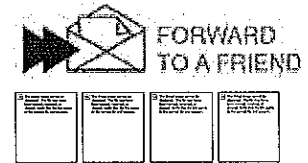
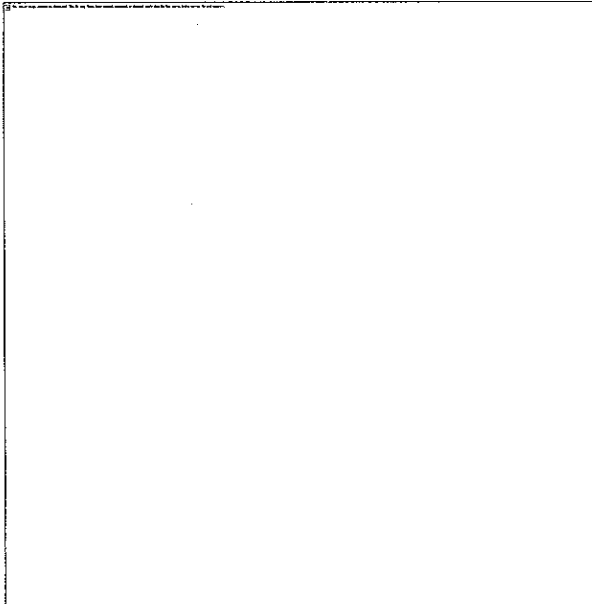
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER HELPS KASICH CAMPAIGN WITH MAX DONATION

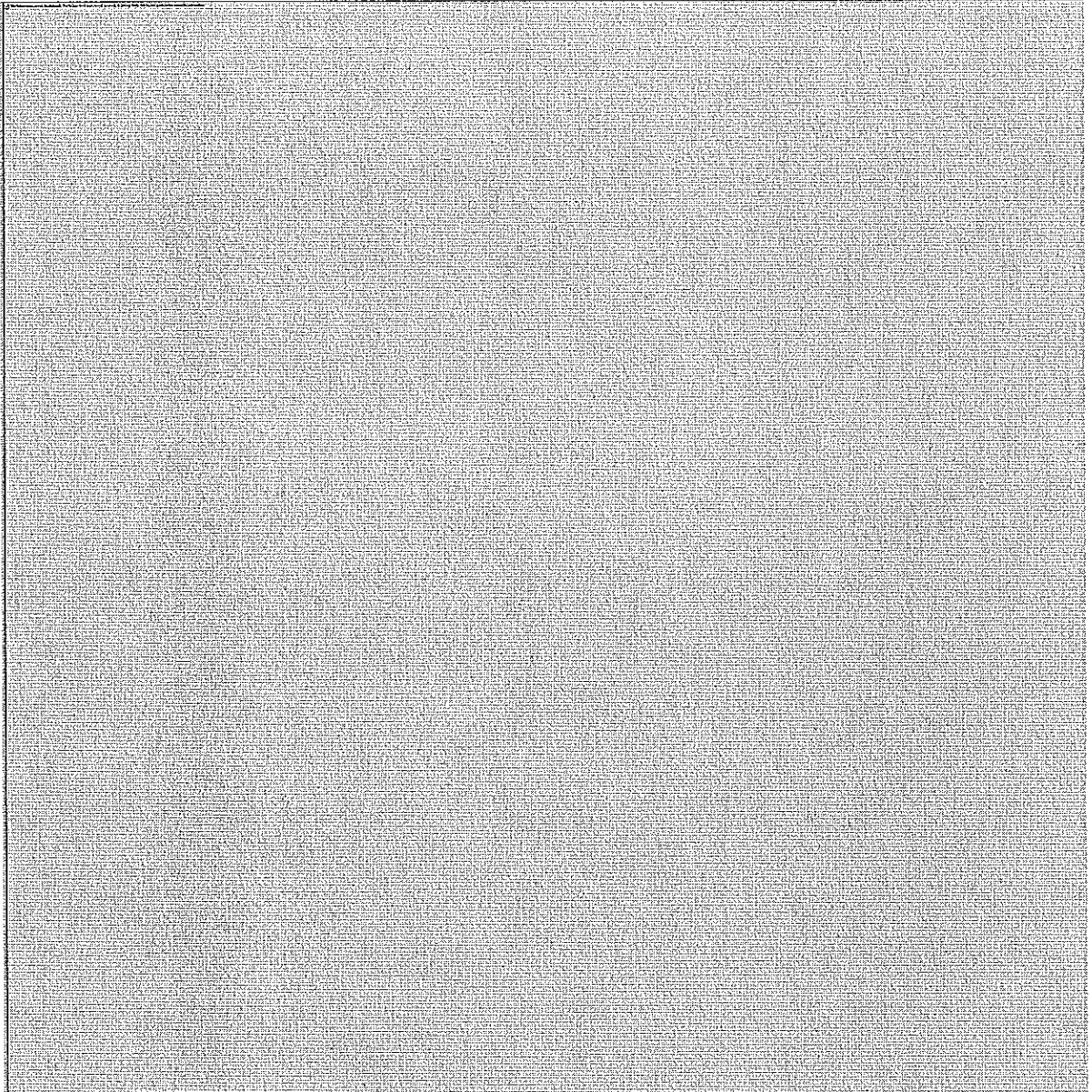
Republican Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign committee and the independent organization supporting him spent \$11.4 million during the final three months of last year as part of his effort to finish among the top three contenders in next week's New Hampshire primary.

EDITORIAL: STATE LEGISLATOR BELITTLES OPPONENT

The photo caught our eye, not only because we thought it was cute, but also because it showed the dedication state Rep. Christina Hagan, R-Marlboro Township, has for her job.

From: Watchdog.org
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2016 8:57 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Bill saves taxpayers \$5 billion





Senate report finds 'pay and chase' Obamacare tax credit failure

A new Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee report shows the Affordable Care Act paid out an estimated \$750 million in tax credits before verifying the citizenship or legal residency of recipients.

[Read more](#)

Trending Articles

Education

Budget raises red flags for school choice

Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf denies that he is against charter schools or school choice, but critics say his latest proposed budget "aims to shut down brick-and-mortar charter schools and put an end to school choice across Pennsylvania."

Healthcare

Flashback: Gov. Kasich's Medicaid expansion end-run

Ohio Gov. John Kasich went around the state legislature to expand Medicaid under Obamacare in 2013, but that's not the story he's telling voters on the campaign trail. Here's how the policy fight played out in 2013.

Budget and spending

\$274 million incentive package took 5 hours from soup to nuts

It took all of five hours for the Mississippi Legislature last week to receive, consider and approve a measure providing \$274 million in taxpayer-funded debt and related tax breaks. For those keeping score at home, that's \$54.8 million per hour.

City paid employee on leave \$212,000, and gave him a raise

An assistant Denver city attorney has apparently been on administrative leave for more than year, collecting as much as \$212,000 while staying at home and even receiving a favorable performance review and pay bump.

[Read more](#)

Labor

Five years later, Act 10 saves taxpayers \$5 billion, study finds

Remember Act 10 - that controversial bill to reform public-sector collective bargaining passed by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker

back in 2011? A new study finds it has saved taxpayers about a billion dollars a year.

First Amendment

-9

Whistleblower says he's getting pressure from unhappy Dems

Whistleblower Ryan Honl says he is "feeling the Bern" from a union and the Democrats it backs after he exposed congressional inaction in the Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center scandal.

From: Maxwell, Dan
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 3:28 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Christie Kuhns and Representative Janine Boyd
DATE: February 18, 2016
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

We will soon introduce legislation to create the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Beginning in 2020, the program will provide 12 weeks of family and medical leave benefits, which will permit individuals to care for a family member, bond with a new child, or address their own serious health condition.

Out of 178 countries worldwide, the United States is one of three that does not provide paid leave to new mothers. Only two states, California and New Jersey, offer paid leave to men and women who provide care. The federal Family Medical Leave Act provides 12 weeks of leave for family and medical reasons. This time is unpaid and employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt, which eliminates a large segment of workers. Ohio should lead on the issue of paid leave to grow our economy and allow working people to put family first.

The program will be under the purview of the Department of Job and Family Services. An individual would receive leave insurance benefits for: a health condition which makes him/her unable to perform their job duties; caring for a new child during after birth, adoption, or foster care placement; caring for a child, parent, or spouse who has a serious health condition; or the individual is taking any other leave as authorized by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. In order to be eligible for program benefits, an individual must file a claim with ODJFS; must have worked at least 680 hours during the base period; premiums

have been withheld and remitted for at least one year; and the leave must be for the above-mentioned purposes.

Once established, program benefits will be paid by assessing premiums on employees. Employers will be required to deduct and withhold premiums from employee's wages. However, an employer may opt to pay the contributions on behalf of employees.

An employee who is covered by an employer policy or collective bargaining agreement that provides the employee with greater leave than that provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act may elect not to participate in the Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Director. An employee who elects to opt out of participating in the Program is not liable for any premium or contribution that would otherwise be due under the Program.

Working people in Ohio should not have to worry about losing their job or falling behind financially just to take care of a sick child or relative; address their own serious health condition; or care for and bond with their newborn child. Ohio cities like Dayton and Cincinnati are leading on leave. By allowing working people to put their family first, we can truly make Ohio a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Dan Maxwell, at 466-1645 or via email at Dan.maxwell@ohiohouse.gov. **The deadline to co-sponsor is Monday February 29th at 5:00pm.**

From: Maxwell, Dan
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 3:56 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Christie Kuhns and Representative Janine Boyd
DATE: February 18, 2016
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

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From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 6:43 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Ohio Report, Monday, February 22, 2016
Attachments: Feb22.htm; Feb22House.htm; Feb22Senate.htm;
160222dayplan.htm



Ohio Report for Monday, February 22, 2016

Higher Education MBR Expands Community College Options, Implements Affordability Recommendations

Education 'Deregulation' Bill Amendments On Hold, Chairman Says

Former Lawmakers Look To Replace Faber In The Senate

After One Candidate Drops Out, Three Republicans Face Off In House District 47 Primary

Kasich Jostles With Rubio For Bush Donors Following SC; Graham, Sabato Mull Potential Rubio-Kasich Ticket

Politics Notebook: Kasich Draws Attention For 'Kitchen' Remark, Signs PP 'Defund' Bill; Poll Shows 74% Of Ohioans Support Medicinal Pot...

Court Briefs: High Court Sets Execution Date; Visiting Judge To Hear Case; Web Site On Judicial Candidates Updated

Capitol Scene: Chabria To Leave Gov's Office, Join ORP; Staff Changes Announced At Buckeye Institute, AICUO, HPIO

Gongwer Statehouse Job Market Updated

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Activity Reports

House

Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

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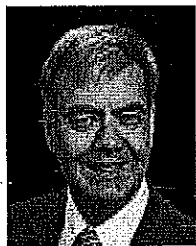
Volume #85, Report #34 -- Monday, February 22, 2016

Higher Education MBR Expands Community College Options, Implements Affordability Recommendations

The administration continues its focus on lowering the cost of college degrees in a higher education mid-biennium review plan unveiled Monday.

The proposal would allow community colleges to offer up to 10 bachelor's degree programs and would create a pilot program in which high school students can receive college credit for math and English remediation courses.

Among other MBR provisions Chancellor John Carey announced at a press event at Lorain County Community College, universities would be required to implement a handful of recommendations from the governor's Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education. (Fact Sheet)



John Carey

"The issue of college affordability is more important than ever. Across the country, the cost of college has far outpaced consumer price index and even healthcare costs. That cost has put the American dream of a college degree out of reach for a growing number of students and families. This is unacceptable," Mr. Carey said.

"Controlling college costs to ensure that more Ohioans can obtain a college degree or credential remains a top priority for Governor Kasich and the General Assembly."

Additional provisions in the bill that Rep. Tim Brown (R-Bowling Green) is expected to introduce on Tuesday include:

- Requiring the Department of Education to study income-sharing agreements as a possible strategy to reducing student loan debt.
- Becoming the 10th state to join the Midwest Exchange Program, which is a tuition reciprocity program that would allow students to enroll in programs at other

states' institutions at a tuition rate that's lower than what typical out-of-state students would pay.

- Creating more "3+1" pathways between two- and four-year institutions so that students are studying at cheaper community colleges longer.
- Joining a partnership with the Western Governors University to award degrees in four areas based on competency and not just the amount of time spent in the classroom.

Joining Mr. Carey were higher education leaders who applauded the plans to expand efforts to reduce higher education costs by supporting dual enrollment programs and pushing collaboration between universities and colleges.

Other speakers included: Lorain County Community College President Roy Church; Sinclair Community College President Steve Johnson; Ray Craig, dean of Bowling Green State University's College of Arts and Sciences; Frank Calzonetti, vice president of government affairs at the University of Toledo; Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville); and two LCCC students.

In particular, they spoke to the success of 3+1 programs and pointed at the MBR plans as a necessary step toward bringing the initiative to scale statewide.

Mr. Church said students at his two-year institution have saved millions of dollars and shaved years off their higher education careers by taking at least 75% of their classes there before earning a bachelor's degree from a university.

"You can use College Credit Plus and 3+1 and we can assure you that you can graduate with a bachelor's degree by age 20 at less than 20% of the cost of taking that same baccalaureate degree if you had to leave Lorain County and go to (a university offering a) four-year degree," he said. "It's not saying one pathway is better than another, it's saying we need all the pathways we can get in Ohio."

Universities are also supportive of plans to move students more quickly through higher education and at a lower cost, Mr. Craig said.

Bowling Green has been among those schools offering a 3+1 program for more than a decade and CCP has brought some first generation students to the university that may have never pictured themselves there otherwise, he said.

"We've been doing this already for well over a decade. We know that it works. It can be successful for our citizens, our universities and community colleges," Mr. Craig said.

Messrs. Church and Craig said they're hopeful that state support for the program will give it the push it needs to mount in the same way dual enrollment has since the Department of Higher Education and ODE began pushing CCP last year.

Mr. Johnson added that community colleges offering bachelor's degrees that aren't available at nearby universities will also be beneficial because it will allow them to offer credentials in career fields that are specific to the region.

Twenty-five other states permit community colleges to offer advanced degrees, he said.

"This is the kind of policy bill that will help us move forward," Mr. Johnson said, referring to Lumina Foundation research that has determined Ohio needs to increase its percentage of residents with a post-secondary degree from 35% to 65% to fill job demands in the coming years.

When the MBR plan was revealed, Jack Hershey, president of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges, also touted its potential benefits.

"These reforms proposed today shine the light on a pathway that has emerged under Governor Kasich that allows students to obtain a degree from their favorite university, while saving up to 80% off the traditional cost of attendance by completing as much of their coursework as possible at a community college," he said in a statement. "The ability for middle class families, single parents, and working adults to obtain a debt-free college degree is once again a reality in Ohio."

Inter-University Council of Ohio President Bruce Johnson said the organization is still examining the proposals to determine its stance, but is supportive of the administration's ongoing efforts to expand higher education options.

"Overall, I think that we appreciate the chancellor's focus on affordability and access and we think that a large and growing percentage of students who are entering public institutions of higher education are choosing public universities and that's because of their evaluation of the value that public universities provide," he said in an interview.

"Certainly providing really good, high-quality choices is great because the state needs to focus on bridging its education gap," Mr. Johnson added.

Education 'Deregulation' Bill Amendments On Hold, Chairman Says

A bill slated for a number of revisions, including holding charter school sponsors harmless for report card scores, has been pulled from the House Education Committee's agenda.

Chairman Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) said last week that the measure (SB 3) would see "quite a few" changes over the course of back-to-back meetings scheduled for Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 19, 2016)

However, the Monday meeting was canceled late last week and Tuesday's has been moved to 2 p.m. The bill and a presentation from the Department of Education were removed from the agenda of the latter meeting.

The delay is caused by a desire on behalf of the legislature and the administration to continue working on the bill before any changes are made public, Rep. Brenner said. He expects any disagreements to be resolved by the time the House returns to session the week of March 14.

"Hopefully we'll get the issues resolved between now and when we come back," he said in an interview.

The chairman was reluctant to reveal what the planned omnibus amendment will include or what proposals are proving to be the most contentious, but said changes will address policy decisions made in the last year.

Despite reports that the proposals would seek to weaken recently enacted charter school overhauls, Rep. Brenner said he doesn't think that's the case.

"There is a discussion of some other issues around equivalency, but that goes back to prior legislation," he said.

Sen. Peggy Lehenr, the Senate Education Committee chairwoman who was behind a number of the HB2 provisions, said attempts to water them down have been unsuccessful.

"I haven't heard of anything that's giving me heartburn," she said of potential updates to the so-called education de-regulation bill. "I know that there have been efforts to put some things in but to my knowledge they're not going in the bill and therefore I'm fine with it."

The chairwoman added that she's supportive of plans to provide safe harbor for charter school sponsors from state report card grades as long as it's only for the 2014-15 school year.

In its original state, the measure is aimed at rewarding high-performing school districts by releasing them from some state requirements.

Former Lawmakers Look To Replace Faber In The Senate

Matt Huffman and John Adams, both of whom left the House in 2014 due to term limits, are running for the seat that comprises Allen, Champaign, Shelby and Mercer counties along with portions of Auglaize, Logan and Darke counties.

Mr. Adams, a businessman and former Navy SEAL, did not respond to multiple attempts to contact him.

Mr. Huffman, a private attorney who rose to the ranks of speaker pro tempore in his first tenure in the legislature, said he has always been drawn to public service.

Prior to his time in the General Assembly he served on the Lima City Council for 14 years, including seven as the body's president.

"If you feel like you can contribute you need to do that in whatever way you can," Mr. Huffman said.

If elected, Mr. Huffman said he hopes to boost manufacturing in the district through increased vocational training and remove disincentives to work.

"We can't fill jobs," he said. "We have jobs that are going unfilled."

More educational dollars should be spent on vocational training and less should be spent on welfare programs, according to Mr. Huffman.

"We understand that in bad times people lose their jobs and they need a little bit of a boost," he said, but added, "Everybody has to do a job at some point in their life that they don't like."

Mr. Huffman also said he will push for a more business-friendly climate in Ohio by fighting efforts to raise revenues through what he deems as backdoor tax increases - "retroactive fines, penalties, things of that nature," he said.

"There should never be a surprise from the government that money is owed by a business, especially when there is a newly-acquired business," he said.

Providing clarity in the rule-making process and moving from an income tax to a sales tax are also priorities of Mr. Huffman.

During his first stint in the legislature, Mr. Huffman said one of his crowning achievements was the passage of legislation to standardize contracts between health care providers and insurance companies (HB125, 127th General Assembly). He said the law could likely use some updating.

"Six years since that bill was passed there's been a lot of backsliding in that regard," he said.

Mr. Huffman, who considers himself to be a "small government, pro-low tax, pro-life, pro-second amendment Republican," believes he has a proven track record of getting things done in the Statehouse that would be of value to the legislature.

"You can be whatever you say you want to be, but you also have to be effective," he said. "That's why we were able to pass a pretty conservative agenda."

During his tenure in the House, Mr. Adams was considered among the more right-leaning members of a conservative majority under then-Speaker Bill Batchelder. He was elected twice to serve in caucus leadership.

Along with the usual conservative causes such as tax cuts and anti-abortion initiatives, Mr. Adams was a staunch proponent of oil and gas drilling in parks and other state lands and sponsored legislation to that effect (HB133, 129th General Assembly).

His anti-abortion efforts included a bill to require paternal consent for abortions (HB252, 128th General Assembly).

Outside of his General Assembly activities, Mr. Adams served as the Ohio legislative chair of American Legislative Exchange Council.

No Democrat filed to run for the heavily Republican seat.

After One Candidate Drops Out, Three Republicans Face Off In House District 47 Primary

An ex-mayor, a school board member, and a Toledo business owner are elbowing for a shot at the 47th House District seat occupied by term limited Rep. Barbara Sears (R-Maumee).

A fourth GOP contender - Monclova Township trustee and Mercy St. Vincent Foundation Development Director Barbara Lang - last month dropped out of the race following discussions with party leaders, saying a crowded primary is not in voters' best interest.

Among the remaining candidates are realtor and former Waterville Mayor Derek Merrin, Sylvania school board member Vicki Donovan Lyle, and business owner and former Sylvania township trustee Kevin Haddad.

The winner of that contest will face Democrat Michael Sarantou of Sylvania Township come November.

The trio of GOP candidates spoke in interviews about their goals for the district if elected.

Mr. Merrin, who has earned endorsements from Rep. Sears, Rep. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon), and Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green), served on the Waterville City Council between 2007-2008

He was first elected in 2007, unseating a three-term Democrat and becoming the youngest mayor in Ohio at the time when he took office in 2008. He credits that win to a message of fiscal conservatism and open government.

"I governed as a strong fiscal conservative who opposed tax increases," he said. "I implemented many cost savings reforms. I'm a strong believer we must empower our local officials by addressing state laws that restrict their ability to govern."

After his term ended and he decided not to seek reelection, he spent four years working for the state auditor's office and is now a realtor and real estate investor.

"My number one priority will be creating an environment that ignites Ohio's economic engine," he said. "I believe our state needs pro-growth reforms to our tax code, regulatory rules, and legislation that furthers individual freedoms."

Ms. Lyle has served on the Sylvania school board since 2004 and owns a business specializing in health insurance and benefit consulting.

She said her experience as a school board member overseeing a district with an \$82 million budget has given her an appreciation for public office and the accountability that comes with it.

"We're expected to keep ourselves fiscally solvent and responsible and accountable in a transparent way to the community," she said. "All of those critical pieces are part of what any good elected official (does) in terms of having that kind of background and experience that's going to translate to the bigger stage."

She said she wants to reduce the state's role in the classroom, by decreasing standardized testing and "teaching to the test." Other priorities include better matching job opportunities with potential workers and addressing the financial burden she said is placed on individuals and businesses to secure healthcare.

If elected, she said, she'd focus on being open and accessible to constituents.

"I've had 30-plus years in the workforce having my own business as a small business owner," she said. "In addition to that, I think my time on the school board has served me well to understand that listening is a primary component for an elected official. It's not about our agenda, but what are the concerns for our constituents."

Mr. Haddad is a former president of the Township Association of Lucas County. He's also a real estate owner and for 40 years owned and operated a Toledo hair salon.

After being elected township trustee in 2009, Mr. Haddad lost reelection in 2013. He previously mounted a failed bid as an independent in 2012 for a county commissioner seat. After finding difficulty winning local races as a conservative, he said, he believes he'll have greater odds in a Statehouse race.

"For me, it's not about the job, not about the money," he said. "It's about fixing the state up before it gets wiped out."

He said he wants to reverse cuts to the local government fund enacted in recent years, but also institute new accountability measures to monitor how those funds are used.

"If we restore the local government fund in a way that would go to each community - I'm not going to give it to the counties - I'm going to ask a lot of people give us your budget

and we're going to audit you to make sure you spent that money properly on those issues," he said.

He said he'd push for an elimination of school levies, which he contends are "illegal and unconstitutional."

Mr. Merrin alleges his two opponents aren't conservatives and said he has widespread support in the district. He said he wants to better control government spending while lowering taxes.

"I'm the only conservative that is running," Mr. Merrin said, claiming that his opponents each "have a record of voting and supporting increased taxes."

"I'm the only candidate that has consistently opposed tax increases as an elected official," he said.

Ms. Lyle, in response, said her opponent was likely referring to a series of school levies voters had approved during her time on the school board. She said the board worked to ensure citizen comments were received when weighing potential cost savings efforts and levy proposals.

Like with all school levies, she said, it's not the school board approving the property tax increase but the voters. She said she would prefer no taxes be increased, but that the board is forced to act within the confines of the current funding system.

"We take every effort and every opportunity to be judicious and fiscally responsible and conservative as we can; we value and appreciate the taxpayers' investment," she said. "But we also understand we are limited in our options of how to raise revenue - of which that is one. So it is the voters who decide, not the school board, as to whether (an increase in) taxes will be put in place."

Mr. Haddad said he was able to pass three of his four priorities as a township trustee and that several cost saving measures he proposed were voted down by other trustees.

He criticized Mr. Merrin for his handling, while mayor, of an ordinance that would have barred sex offenders from living in certain parts of the city. The ordinance, which Mr. Haddad contends would have concentrated sex offenders in a handful of neighborhoods, was later scrapped by the city council in a 6-1 vote in 2008 following public opposition.

"When I was a trustee, I worked conservatively," Mr. Haddad said. "I can foresee the future on a lot of issues and I look at every angle of it and I make sure it's done as properly and accurately as possible so we don't have any problems."

Subscribers Note: These stories are part of a series on contested primaries heading into the March 15 election. Updated candidate lists and related information are available on the [Gongwer Elections Page](#).

Kasich Jostles With Rubio For Bush Donors Following SC; Graham, Sabato Mull Potential Rubio-Kasich Ticket

Unlike Gov. Bush, the Kasich camp made clear early on it did not have high hopes for South Carolina, instead preferring to lay groundwork in friendlier upcoming Midwestern states like Michigan. Mr. Bush announced Saturday night he was suspending his campaign, a move that enabled Kasich backers to tout their candidates as the last governor standing.

Kasich for America Chief Strategist John Weaver said the South Carolina results show the field has been winnowed to a four man race and that Gov. Kasich has emerged victorious from the "governor's bracket."

"Only four candidates have top-three finishes in any of the early states and can justify staying in," he said. "While others were making their last stand in South Carolina, John Kasich strengthened his organization and support - despite being outspent by tens of millions of dollars. He also focused on the key states ahead for us, like Michigan, where he is currently second, Massachusetts and Vermont."

But Gov. Kasich faces an uphill battle jostling with Sen. Rubio to pick up remnants from Mr. Bush's failed campaign; those donors and staffers may be more drawn to the senator, who has raised more money and seen more success in the Iowa caucuses and SC primary than Gov. Kasich.

"John Kasich may be able to compete in places such as Massachusetts and Michigan in early March, and hang on to win Ohio with the hope that his delegates prove crucial," according to analysis from Sabato's Crystal Ball. "But he just isn't built to play in enough states, nor does he have a broad enough appeal in the GOP, to truly challenge for the nomination."

"Most mainstream Republicans will sooner or later move to Rubio, but will it be soon enough? He can't keep on finishing second or third - or fifth, as he did in New Hampshire. You have to start winning, but where?"

On Monday, former candidate and Bush backer Sen. Lindsay Graham mused during an interview that a Rubio-Kasich ticket "would be (a) very potent ticket in the fall and maybe help us stop Trump."

Added Sabato's Crystal Ball: "Rubio might want to consider a daring gambit - openly offering Kasich the vice presidential slot in exchange for the Ohio governor's support."

Gov. John Kasich finished fifth out of six candidates in the South Carolina Republican primary Saturday, landing far behind winner Donald Trump. Mr. Trump won 32.5% of the vote, while Mr. Kasich won the support of 7.6% of voters.

Sen. Rubio won a narrow second place victory at 22.5%, followed by Sen. Ted Cruz at 22.3%. Gov. Kasich fell just short of former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who came in fourth with 7.8%. Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson earned 7.2% of the vote.

The Kasich campaign is banking on a successful showing in Michigan, where a weekend American Research Group poll ranked him in second at 17%, above Sens. Rubio and Cruz, who were each at 12%.

The Kasich campaign on Monday announced its Michigan team (full roster), which will be chaired by former congressman Pete Hoekstra, State Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, State House Speaker Pro Tempore Tom Leonard, and former RNC committeeman Chuck Yob.

With the field narrowing, Gov. Kasich is expected to face increasing calls to withdraw in an effort to consolidate support behind Sen. Rubio among establishment figures who hope to mount an effort to thwart Mr. Trump and Sen. Cruz from landing the nomination. Gov. Kasich's continued presence may siphon support that might otherwise be thrown at the freshman senator from Florida.

Kasich Gains/Loses Endorsements: On Sunday, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported that Kasich campaign Colorado co-chair B.J. Nikkel is endorsing Sen. Rubio. The paper quoted the former state lawmaker as saying "it's time for conservatives of conscience to rally behind the one man who can defeat New York billionaire Donald Trump."

At the same time, billionaire financier Stanley Druckenmiller threw his support behind Gov. Kasich, according to the *New York Times*.

"Mr. Druckenmiller confirmed in an email that he was supporting Mr. Kasich, but did not elaborate," the paper reported. "Last year, he donated more than \$450,000 to groups supporting Mr. Kasich, Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey and former Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida."

It remains to be seen who, if anyone, Mr. Bush might endorse. A *Politico* report Sunday cited those close to Mr. Bush as saying a Kasich endorsement was "unlikely." But an endorsement of Sen. Rubio might also be a stretch considering the pair's increasingly contentious relationship on the campaign trail in recent months.

Gov. Kasich landed several endorsements in recent days, including those from former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge, former Massachusetts Gov. Bill Weld, former Nevada GOP Chairwoman Amy Tarkanian, and Nevada Speaker John Hambrick. Also endorsing the governor are the *Waco Tribune-Herald* and the *Corpus Christie Caller Times* of Texas.

The Kasich campaign Sunday announced it has hired Mike Schrimpf, formerly chief communicator for Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner, to oversee its communication outreach. Kerry Knott, former chief of staff to former U.S. Majority Leader Dick Armey has been hired as the campaign's senior policy adviser.

Coming Soon: GOP candidates will next focus on Nevada, where caucuses will be held on Tuesday. A CNN debate is scheduled for Thursday, though qualifying criteria have not yet been announced.

After Nevada is a key March 1 date, when nine states hold primaries and three states hold caucuses in the so called SEC Primary. Primaries will be held that day in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and Virginia. Alaska, Colorado and Minnesota have caucuses on March 1.

The Kasich-backing super PAC New Day for America on Monday announced the rollout of its national political operation which will involve more than 50 staff members and 14 officers across 12 March primary states.

Targeted states include Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Vermont, Virginia, Kentucky, Maine, Hawaii, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio and North Carolina.

"Our Super PAC's focus on the ground game is unique and, just as we did in New Hampshire, we fully expect our team to impact the race for the nomination," New Day spokeswoman Connie Wehrkamp said. "We are strategically placing our focus and resources where we can make the biggest impact and ensure John Kasich, the one Republican who can win in November, is our nominee."

In a Monday Emerson poll of Massachusetts, conducted Feb. 19-21 with a 5.7 percentage point margin of error, Gov. Kasich placed third at 13%, behind Mr. Trump at 50% and Sen. Rubio at 16%.

Politics Notebook: Kasich Draws Attention For 'Kitchen' Remark, Signs PP 'Defund' Bill; Poll Shows 74% Of Ohioans Support Medicinal Pot...

Remarks from Gov. John Kasich on women leaving their kitchens to campaign for him drew quick backlash Monday, one day after the governor signed a bill to "defund" Planned Parenthood in Ohio.

The governor made the remark during a town hall in Fairfax, Va., as he sought to explain how he was elected to the Ohio Senate in 1978.

"We just got an army of people and many women who left their kitchens to go out and go door to door and put yard signs up for me," he said according to video that first caught attention.

The initial video, posted by a YouTube account that has released a handful of previous anti-Kasich videos, did not show how Mr. Kasich concluded the remark.

Subsequent video of the full remark added context, showing that Gov. Kasich went on to say that campaign occurred "all the way back when things were different. Now you call homes and everybody's out working. But at that time, early days, it was an army of the women that really helped me get elected to the state Senate."

Twitter users quickly seized upon the statement, followed closely by national media outlets.

Kasich for America spokesman Chris Schrimpf responded to the outcry, saying in a statement that the governor's campaigns have "literally been run out of his friends' kitchens and many of his early campaign teams were made up of stay-at-home moms who believed deeply in the changes he wanted to bring to them and their families."

"That's real grassroots campaigning and he's proud of that authentic support," Mr. Schrimpf said. "To try and twist his comments into anything else is just desperate politics."

The Ohio Democratic Party subsequently painted the governor as out of touch, accusing him of giving *Mad Men* television character and womanizer "Don Draper" a run for his money."

The remarks came one day after the governor signed a bill (HB 294) to eliminate \$1.3 million in state funding to Planned Parenthood. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 10, 2016)

The Planned Parenthood Action Fund said the bill will have "devastating consequences for women" across the state.

"John Kasich is proudly eliminating care for expectant mothers and newborns; leaving thousands without vital STD and HIV testing, slashing a program to fight domestic violence, and cutting access to essential, basic health care," President Cecile Richards said. "It's clear Kasich has no regard for women's health or lives and will stop at nothing to slash health care for millions."

Ohio Right to Life, in contrast, praised the bill's signing.

"Thanks to the pro-life leadership of Gov. Kasich and his work with Ohio Right to Life, Ohio's abortion industry is shrinking," ORTL President Mike Gonidakis said. "As Planned Parenthood haggles over the hearts and brains of aborted babies, Ohio Right to Life is marking history with legislation that is both ethically consistent and fiscally responsible."

Pot Amendment: A poll released Monday by Marijuana Policy Project showed nearly three-fourths of Ohio voters support amending the constitution to legalize medical marijuana for those with terminal or debilitating petitions.

The poll, conducted by Public Policy Polling, shows that 74% of voters support a proposed amendment, with 22% opposed, according to a news release.

"It's become pretty common knowledge that marijuana can be incredibly beneficial in the treatment of a variety of medical conditions," Mason Tvert, a spokesman for Ohioans for Medical Marijuana, a committee that has been formed to support MPP's forthcoming ballot initiative, said in a statement.

"It's not surprising that a vast majority of voters agree patients should be allowed to consume it if their doctors think it could be helpful. There are few laws still on the books that are as unpopular as those that prohibit sick and dying people from accessing medical marijuana."

According to the poll, 85% of self-identified Democrats and 69% of self-identified Republicans said they supported legalizing medical marijuana.

Ohioans for Medical Marijuana is drafting a ballot initiative and expects to start the petition process later this month, according to the release. Another pro-marijuana group has already suspended its petition efforts in favor of supporting the MPP-backed proposal. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 19, 2016)

"Ohio's current marijuana policy is antiquated and inhumane," Mr. Tvert said. "We hope to give voters an opportunity to change that this November. We're confident that most Ohioans will support a well-written initiative that gives seriously ill people the right to use medical marijuana if their doctors recommend it."

8th Congressional District: Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) on Sunday announced he has earned the support of Butler County Sheriff Richard Jones and Montgomery County Sheriff Phil Plummer in the race to succeed former U.S. Rep. John Boehner.

Sen. Beagle is among more than a dozen GOP candidates vying for the seat in an upcoming special election. Sen. Beagle and Rep. Tim Derickson (R-Oxford) are the two most high-profile contenders.

U.S. Senate Race: A poll from the Democratic polling outfit PPP shows U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) battling weak approval numbers.

The poll found the senator with a 30-39% approval rating, placing him "very much in the danger zone for reelection based on those low approval numbers," according to the group.

Former Gov. Ted Strickland and Cincinnati Councilman PG Sittenfeld are competing in the Democratic primary for the chance to unseat Sen. Portman.

Mr. Sittenfeld on Friday criticized Gov. Strickland for failing to show up to a Monday event at the Cleveland City Club where Mr. Sittenfeld had hoped the candidates would debate. Gov. Strickland has repeatedly rebuffed Mr. Sittenfeld's calls for debates, saying he'd prefer to focus on competing with Sen. Portman.

Court Briefs: High Court Sets Execution Date; Visiting Judge To Hear Case; Web Site On Judicial Candidates Updated

The state's high court has set an execution date for a man convicted of the 2004 killing a Toledo woman who lived who lived in the same apartment complex.

In a 5-2 decision issued with no opinion, the court set an Oct. 17, 2019 execution date for James Frazier.

Justice Paul Pfeifer issued a dissent in the case. He was joined by Justice Terrance O'Donnell.

"At this time, the state is incapable of properly executing the 25 people for whom execution dates have previously been set. It serves no rational purpose for this court to continue to set execution dates while significant logistical obstacles remain in place and more legal challenges are likely," Justice Pfeifer wrote.

In October, the state pushed its earliest execution date back to 2017 due to difficulty in obtaining the drugs used for the lethal injection procedure. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 20, 2015)

The state currently has 11 executions scheduled for 2017, eight scheduled for 2018 and six scheduled for 2019.

Bipartisan legislation has been introduced in the House that would end capital punishment in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 27, 2015)

Web Site Updated: Continuing the effort of Chief Justice O'Connor to create a more informed electorate when it comes to the judiciary, judicialvotescount.org has been updated to provide voters with information about the candidates that will be on the ballot this year, the court reported.

A total of 145 judicial seats will be on the ballot this year, including three Ohio Supreme Court seats, 27 court of appeals seats and 115 common pleas court seats.

The web site provides biographical information on candidates and explanations on why they are running for a particular office, according to the court.

Ran by the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron, the web site was created in the wake of 2014 survey that found many Ohio voters do not vote in judicial elections due to a lack of knowledge about the candidates, the court reported.

According to the chief justice, on average, about 25% of voters who go to the polls do not cast ballots for judicial candidates. In Cuyahoga County in 2012, she said, about 40% of voters neglected to vote for judicial candidates. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 11, 2016)

Other partners in the non-profit web site include Chief Justice O'Connor, the League of Women Voters of Ohio, the Ohio State Bar Association, the Ohio Newspaper Association and the Ohio Association of Broadcasters.

Visiting Judge: Tenth District Court of Appeals Judge Elizabeth Schuster will hear oral arguments Tuesday in a lawyer malpractice case.

Judge Schuster will fill in for Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, who recused herself in the case of *Ratonel v. Roetzel & Andress*.

At issue in the case is whether a Dayton law firm can be used for malpractice for failing to pursue claims that were not in the written agreement but were discussed between the law firm and the client and whether it can be sued for malpractice if it pursues a legal claim sought by the client, but withdraws it and advises the client to seek other counsel to pursue the claim or represent themselves, according to the court.

The case stems from a malpractice lawsuit a California woman filed against another law firm after she claimed it caused her to lose \$1 million in a real estate transaction. The Dayton law firm was originally hired to represent her in that case.

Capitol Scene: Chabria To Leave Gov's Office, Join ORP; Staff Changes Announced At Buckeye Institute, AICUO, HPIO

Jai Chabria, a key executive staff member for Gov. John Kasich, is leaving the governor's office to work for the Ohio Republican Party.

Mr. Chabria has served as senior advisor to Mr. Kasich since he took office in 2011. That job entailed vetting Mr. Kasich's appointments, among other things.

"I am enormously grateful to Jai for his many years of friendship, counsel and outstanding public service to me and the people of Ohio," Mr. Kasich said in a statement. "While it is difficult to see Jai move on, I know that great things lie ahead for him in this next phase of his career. I look forward to our continued deep friendship."

Mr. Chabria's last day with the governor's staff is Friday. The Powell resident's job at ORP was described by the party as "a senior position that will oversee the preparation and planning for the Republican National Convention in Cleveland in July."

"The world spotlight will be on Cleveland in July as our party nominates the next President of the United States. It's a tremendous and exciting opportunity for Ohio," ORP Chairman Matt Borges said. "Jai is a seasoned professional with top notch experience. We are pleased to have him join our team as we plan and prepare for the convention."

AICUO: Andrew Lampkins has joined the staff of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio as director of external relations, the group announced recently.

He previously served dual roles with the Center for Healthy Families as the director of outreach and engagement and with Lardon & Associates as a director of business development.

Mr. Lampkins' prior experience includes serving as the community & small business manager for Vermont Energy Investment Corporation. The Otterbein University graduate

will be responsible for AICUO's affiliate member program, inter-college collaborations, events and educational programming, and the expansion of the group's member energy conservation and sustainability initiative.

Buckeye Institute: Daniel J. Dew has joined the staff of the Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions as a full-time Criminal Justice Fellow, the group announced.

A published author on criminal justice issues and a former Visiting Legal Fellow at The Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., Mr. Dew will focus on efforts to revise Ohio's criminal code and updating the state's civil asset forfeiture law, among other things, according to the institute.

"Daniel is a national expert on criminal law, and we are pleased to bring him on to expand Buckeye's capacity to formulate sound criminal justice policy for Ohio that can be easily replicated in other states," institute President and CEO Robert Alt said in a release.

HPIO Hire: Former state employee Rebecca Sustersic has been hired as a policy analyst with the Health Policy Institute of Ohio, the group announced recently.

Reem Aly and Amy Bush Stevens have been promoted to vice president and Sarah Bollig Dorn has been promoted to manager, Health Policy and Education, the group said.

Ms. Sustersic was previously employed at the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation for three years, first as a health care policy analyst and more recently as manager of medical reimbursement and coding policy, according to HPIO. She holds degrees from Ohio State University and Bowling Green State University. Ms. Sustersic also served as a Legislative Service Commission fellow in 2009.

Gongwer Statehouse Job Market Updated

Gongwer's Statehouse Job Market has been updated. The update is available on the Gongwer website.

Subscribers interested in posting job openings on Gongwer's employment board can send job descriptions and other information to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com.

Supplemental Agency Calendar Tuesday, February 23

Racing Commission, 77 South High St., Room 1960, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Thursday, February 25

Ethics Commission, Rm. G, 3rd Fl., 30 E. Spring St., Columbus, 12 p.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, February 23

Quinnipiac University to release poll of Ohio likely voters on presidential primary

Ohio senators, faith leaders, others

news conference on ending "pregnancy discrimination", Press Conf. Rm., Statehouse,
Columbus, 11 a.m.

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House Activity for Monday, February 22, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 471 ■ **COMMISSION ELIMINATION** (Brown, T.) To formally abolish certain boards and commissions that have completed their work and to abolish the Compact with Ohio Cities Task Force.

HB 472 ■ **RENEWABLE ENERGY** (Strahorn, F.) To unfreeze the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction, to permit changes in and Public Utilities Commission action on electric distribution utility portfolio plans in 2016, to revise the setback requirement for economically significant wind farms, and to repeal the setback requirement for wind farms of fifty megawatts or more.

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 124 ■ **AWARENESS DAY/MONTH** (Thomas, C.) To designate May as "Asthma Awareness Month" and to designate May 5 as "Childhood Asthma Awareness Day."

HB 241 ■ **MONTH DESIGNATION** (Grossman, C., Curtin, M.) To designate the month of September as "Hunger Action Month."

HB 290 ■ **TERMINAL PATIENTS** (Sprague, R., Anielski, M.) To permit a physician to treat a terminally ill patient with a drug that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and permit a drug manufacturer to provide such a drug to the patient or physician.

HB 305 ■ **RETIREMENT SYSTEMS** (Schuring, K.) To include new nonteaching employees of The University of Akron as members in the Public Employees Retirement System and to make an appropriation for the University's School Employees Retirement System employer surcharge payments.

HB 325 ■

DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT (Green, D., O'Brien, S.) Regarding encouraging pregnant women who are addicted to controlled substances to seek treatment.

HCR 21 ■

DD EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (Romanchuk, M., Antonio, N.) To urge the Congress of the United States to request that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services revise its guidance on employment services for individuals with developmental disabilities to maintain their right to participate in programs offered by facility-based day programs, training centers and sheltered workshops.

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

HB 294 ■

(Enacted)

ABORTION (Patmon, B., Conditt, M.) To require the Department of Health to ensure that state funds and certain federal funds are not used either to perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions, or to contract or affiliate with any entity that performs or promotes nontherapeutic abortions; to provide for health departments and WIC clinics to determine presumptive eligibility for pregnant women and children; and to allocate existing funding within the Ohio Department of Health's budget to the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers for safe sleep, birth spacing, and smoking cessation initiatives.

Signed: February 21, 2016

Gongwer Coverage

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Senate Activity for Monday, February 22, 2016

SENATE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS

Legislative Committee on Public Health Futures: Appoint Sen. Yuko and Carla Hicks

Capitol Square Review & Advisory Board: Appoint Sen. Peterson to replace former Sen. Widener

Sunset Review Committee: Appoint Sen. Coley to replace former Sen. Widener

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SB 260 ■ **CAPITAL REAPPROPRIATIONS (Coley, B.)** To make capital
(Enacted) reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2018.
Signed: February 21, 2016

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, February 23

Legislative Committees

House Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9 a.m.

- HB 455** **BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE** (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 407** **BODY CAMERAS** (Boyce, K., Grossman, C.) To require law enforcement agencies that use body cameras to adopt written policies for operation of the cameras and to require agencies to make the adopted policies available to the public. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 361** **COMMUNITY EVENT FUNDING** (Brenner, A.) To authorize boards of township trustees and boards of park commissioners to expend funds for the public purpose of presenting community events in their parks and at other recreational facilities. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 375** **SNOW REMOVAL** (Brown, T., Arndt, S.) To authorize townships to require the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks abutting property and to impose a fine for failure to do so. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- HB 333** **BIDDING THRESHOLDS** (Schaffer, T., Hambley, S.) To increase the monetary thresholds above which competitive bidding is required for township road construction, repair, or maintenance contracts, and to increase the monetary thresholds above which a force account assessment is required for a township road construction, repair, or maintenance project. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- HB 378** **TRAFFIC ARRESTS** (Hambley, S., Rezabek, J.) To authorize law enforcement officers of township police districts and joint police districts, and township constables, serving specified small populations to make arrests for motor vehicle-related violations committed on an interstate highway in the same manner as township law enforcement officers serving larger populations. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- HB 413** **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (Brinkman, T.) To add to the purposes for which a board of township trustees may go into executive session, to permit a township to charge for recycling services, to reduce the population threshold for a township to adopt a limited home rule form of government, to authorize a township to purchase, lease, or provide underwater rescue and recovery equipment for fire and rescue purposes, to authorize boards of township trustees to pay for group life insurance for any employee, to make other changes to the township laws, to allow taxing units to use the proceeds of a

fire, police, or emergency services tax levy to pay costs related to the service for which the tax is levied, and to expand the public infrastructure improvements townships, municipal corporations, and counties may pay for using money from their public improvement tax increment equivalent funds. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

HB 462

POLICE DISTRICT (Hagan, C., Sprague, R.) To establish a joint police district, to modify the membership of a joint police district governing body, to expand the offense of solicitation to also apply to a person who agrees with another to engage with the other person in sexual activity for hire, to provide that the "prescription exemption" from the drug possession offenses does not apply to a person who uses more of the drug than the maximum prescribed amount per day or the maximum amount to be used within the prescription timeline or who administers or takes the drug in a manner not prescribed by the prescribing health professional, and to provide immunity from civil liability to a peace officer who administers naloxone to a person who is apparently experiencing an opioid-related overdose. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Peterson, B., 466-8156), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

HB 9

TAX EXPENDITURES (Boose, T.) To create a Tax Expenditure Review Committee for the purpose of periodically reviewing existing and proposed tax expenditures. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

SB 264

TAX HOLIDAY (Bacon, K.) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 233

REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS (Schuring, K.) To authorize municipal corporations to create downtown redevelopment districts and innovation districts for the purposes of promoting the rehabilitation of historic buildings, creating jobs, encouraging economic development in commercial and mixed-use areas, and supporting grants and loans to technology-oriented and other businesses. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

House Transportation & Infrastructure (Committee Record) (Chr. Boose, T., 466-9628), Rm. 122, 9:30 a.m.

SB 182

ROAD NAMING (Balderson, T., Peterson, B.) To designate a portion of United States route twenty-three within Pickaway County as the "Army Specialist Gerald R. Jenkins Memorial Highway" and a portion of United States route sixty-two within Pickaway County as the "Army PFC Kevin C. Ott Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

HB 461

LICENSE PLATE (Roegner, K.) To establish the Cuyahoga Valley National Park license plate and to require a \$15 contribution for the issuance of the license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838), South Hearing Rm., 10:30 a.m.

HB 207 WORKERS COMPENSATION (Henne, M., McColley, R.) To allow a state fund employer to have a workers' compensation claim that is likely to be subrogated by a third party paid from the surplus fund account in the state insurance fund rather than charged to the employer's experience (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 273 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.) To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 27 FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.) To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Seitz, B., 466-8068), North Hearing Rm., 11 a.m.

- **Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Andre Porter, chairman, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio**

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 11:30 a.m. or after session

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11:30 a.m.

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. McClain, J., 644-6265), Rm. 121, 1:30 p.m. or after session

HB 334 TAX EXEMPTION (Buchy, J.) To exempt memberships to gyms or other recreational facilities operated by nonprofit organizations from sales and use taxation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 297 TAX CREDIT (Hill, B.) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for current livestock owners who invest in a manure storage or treatment facility or acquire manure application equipment or manure handling and transportation equipment. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m.

HB 444 ALCOHOL SAMPLES (Blessing, L.) To allow certain D liquor permit holders to provide free tasting samples of beer, wine, and spirituous liquor to a person who is 21 years old or older and a paying customer of the permit holder. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 351 LIQUOR LAWS (Perales, R., DeVitis, T.) To increase the amount of spirituous liquor that an A-3a liquor permit holder may annually manufacture and to allow an A-3a permit holder to obtain an A-1-A liquor permit. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 278 **HUMANE SOCIETIES (Hambley, S.)** To require approval by the board of county commissioners, instead of the probate judge, of appointments of agents by county humane societies outside a municipal corporation, to specify that a county humane society is a political subdivision, to make its directors, agents, officers, and employees subject to the Ethics Law, and to increase the salaries paid to the agents. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

House Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 466-6711), Rm. 121, 2 p.m. or after session

- **SB3 and ODE presentation removed from the agenda**

HB 441 **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (McColley, R.)** To permit a student enrolled in a nonpublic school to participate in interscholastic activities at a school district that is not the student's resident district under certain circumstances and to prohibit a student who participates in the College Credit Plus program from being denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics solely due to participation in the program. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 383 **FINANCIAL LITERACY (Hagan, C., McColley, R.)** To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act." (2nd Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 401 **PRIVATE SCHOOLS (Brinkman, T.)** With regard to requirements for chartered nonpublic schools. (3rd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 410 **TRUANCY (Rezabek, J., Hayes, B.)** With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

SB 257 **REAL PROPERTY (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.)** To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 359 **ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY (Duffey, M., Gonzales, A.)** To create an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, human trafficking, trafficking in persons, rape, or sexual battery. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 158 **DISABILITY TERMS (Dever, J., Howse, S.)** To change the variations of the term "mentally retarded" to "person with an intellectual disability." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 242 **DAY DESIGNATION** (Hagan, C., Dever, J.) To designate the fourth Sunday of July as Blue Star Mothers Day. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote) - House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.

HB 347 **CIVIL FORFEITURES** (McColley, R., Brinkman, T.) To eliminate civil asset forfeiture proceedings and to modify the law governing criminal asset forfeitures. (7th Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 215 **VEHICLE FORCIBLE ENTRY** (Hughes, J., LaRose, F.) To grant a person immunity from civil liability for any damage resulting from the forcible entry of a motor vehicle for the purpose of removing a minor or an animal from the vehicle because the minor or the animal is in imminent danger of suffering harm. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 446 **OVI OFFENSES** (Manning, N.) To specify that the prison term that may be imposed for a third degree felony operating a vehicle while intoxicated ("OVI") offense is a definite period of twelve, eighteen, twenty-four, thirty, thirty-six, forty-two, forty-eight, fifty-four, or sixty months, to add "harmful intoxicant" to the definition of "drug of abuse" for the purposes of commercial driver's licensing law, to allow a person to assert the existing affirmative defense of driving in an emergency with regard to a prosecution for driving under a suspended driver's license under specified laws, and to specify that certain enhanced penalties for speeding violations apply regardless of whether the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to speeding. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible amendments)

HB 451 **PROTECTION ORDERS** (Boose, T.) To provide that an individual's statutory priority to decide whether or not to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for the individual's relative is forfeited if the individual is the subject of a temporary protection order or civil protection order and the relative is the alleged victim or if the individual and the relative are married and the parties to a divorce, dissolution, legal separation, or annulment proceeding. (2nd Hearing-Sponsor-Possible amendments)

HB 439 **VOYEURISM** (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 432 **ESTATE LAW** (Rezabek, J.) To revise the law governing decedent's estates by making changes in the Ohio Trust Code, the Probate Law, the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the Transfers to Minors Act, and the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 436 **DUI SENTENCES** (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 222 **TRANSIT WORKER ASSAULTS** (Driehaus, D., Perales, R.) To increase the penalty for assault when the victim is an employee of an Ohio transit

system whom the offender knows or has reasonable cause to know is such an employee engaged in the performance of the victim's duties; to permit the court to impose a fine of up to \$5000 and a six-month or lifetime prohibition from riding an Ohio transit system for assault committed in such specified circumstances; to authorize Ohio transit systems to post a warning sign indicating that abuse or assault of staff will not be tolerated and might result in a felony conviction; and to increase the penalty for evading payment of the known fares of a public transportation system. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 363

JUVENILE HEARINGS (Reece, A.) To require restraints to be removed from an alleged or adjudicated delinquent child prior to the commencement of a juvenile court hearing or proceeding unless the court determines that the use of restraints is necessary to prevent physical harm to the child or another person or to prevent the child from escaping. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m.

HB 173

VETERAN IDENTIFICATION (Anielski, M., Terhar, L.) To authorize county recorders to issue Ohio veterans identification cards. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

HB 295

LICENSE PLATE (Ruhl, M.) To create the "Global War on Terrorism Civilian Service Medal" license plate. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 104

LICENSE PLATE DISPLAY (DeVitis, T.) To specify that failure to display a license plate on the front of a motor vehicle that is required to display a license plate on the front and rear of the vehicle is a secondary traffic offense, to establish a maximum fine of \$25 for such an offense, and to amend the version of section 4503.21 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, to continue the provisions of this act on and after that effective date. (3rd Hearing-Possible vote)

HB 388

OVI OFFENSES (Scherer, G.) To authorize a court to grant unlimited driving privileges with an ignition interlock device to first-time OVI offenders, to expand the penalties related to ignition interlock device violations, to modify the law governing the installation and monitoring of ignition interlock devices, to extend the look back period for OVI and OVI-related offenses from six to ten years, and to modify the penalties for OVI offenses. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Sunset Review Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104), South Hearing Rm., 3:30 p.m.

- **Agency reports from Reclamation Commission, Reclamation Forfeiture Fund Advisory Board, Board of Cosmetology, Optical Dispensers Board, Child Care Advisory Council, Child Support Guideline Advisory Council, Children's Trust Fund Board, Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council, State Victims Assistance Advisory Committee, Ohio Expositions Commission, Data Collection and Analysis Group, Dentist Loan Repayment Advisory Board, Help Me Grow Advisory Council, Hospital Measures Advisory Council, Infant Hearing Screening Subcommittee, Infection Control Group, Intergovernmental Council**

and Advisory Panel of the Lupus Educational and Awareness Program, Legislative Committee on Public Health Futures, Maternity and Newborn Advisory Council, Medically Handicapped Children's Medical Advisory Council, Physician Loan Repayment Advisory Board, Radiation Advisory Council, The Director of Health's Advisory Group on Violent Deaths, The Director of Health's Committee on Concussions and Head Injuries Sustained by Athletes, Council to Advise on the Establishment and Implementation of the Birth Defects Information System and Ohio Medical Quality Foundation

Agency Calendar

Board of Landscape Architects, 77 S. High St., 31st Flr. Board Room, Columbus, 9 a.m.

Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, Foundation Office, 100 S. High St., Hillsboro, 9:30 a.m. (Agriculture Development Subcommittee)

Racing Commission, 77 South High St., Room 1960, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, Foundation Office, 100 S. High St., Hillsboro, 11:30 a.m. (Educational Subcommittee)

Public Facilities Commission, 35th Fl., 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, 4 p.m.

Event Planner

Nevada Republican caucuses

Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' (OFSWCD) 73rd annual conservation partnership conference, Renaissance Hotel, 50 N. 3rd St., Columbus
Quinnipiac University to release poll of Ohio likely voters on presidential primary
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Legislative Breakfast Reception, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Ohio senators, faith leaders, others news conference on ending "pregnancy discrimination", Press Conf. Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 11 a.m.

Rep. John Bocchieri (D-Poland) fundraiser, The Chintz Room, 121 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000, \$500, \$250 to John Bocchieri for Ohio Committee)

Ohio Council of Retail Merchants annual legislative reception, The Lounge at the Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m.

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Tally Ho Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual \$350 to Citizens for Lehner)

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, The Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000, Event Sponsor \$500, Individual Attendee: \$350 to LaRose for Senate)

Rep. Stephen Slesnick (D-Canton) fundraiser, The Chintz Room, 121 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000, \$500, \$250 to Committee to Elect Stephen Slesnick)

Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood) and Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlor A/B, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Butler for Ohio and/or Seitz for Senate Committee)

Conservative Energy Day Reception, Statehouse Museum Gallery, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (RSVP to Mike Hartley at mike@swingstatestrategies.com)

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Columbus Ohio 43215

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From: Policy Matters Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 4:27 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: SCOTUS: Fair Share is Fair

Policy Matters Ohio



Fair Share is Fair

Supreme Court votes to uphold fair share fees

[View online](#)

Fair share is fair.

That was the finding of an equally divided U.S. Supreme Court, which today issued a one-sentence decision that upheld nearly 40 years of legal precedent and the right of public sector workers to collectively bargain.

No worker can be forced to join a union even though the benefits of a union contract extend to all the workers in the bargaining unit. Those workers who do not want to be full members pay a fair share fee. This ensures that such covered employees who receive all of the benefits of union membership pay some of the costs. Fair share covers the administrative costs of bargaining and administering the contract. Fair share fees do not include costs of political activities. In the *Friedrichs* case decided today, a small group of California teachers objected to paying their fair share and the court has rejected their challenge.

"Fair share is about basic fairness," said Zach Schiller, research director with Policy Matters Ohio. "This decision buoys the rights of working people and promotes stability in the public-workplace."

Hannah Halbert, workforce researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, added that "Ohio voters overwhelmingly defeated Senate Bill 5, legislation that would have stripped many public sector workers of their right to collectively bargain. Working people need more opportunities to have their voice heard on the job, not less."

Today's 4-4 decision upholds the finding of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and it sets no new collective bargaining restrictions for the rest of the country.

Read more about the decision on the [SCOTUS blog](#). Learn more about the impact of unions on Ohio's labor market in our [State of Working Ohio report](#).

###

Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan state policy research institute with offices in Cleveland and Columbus.

Hannah Halbert is a workforce researcher with Policy Matters Ohio.

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From: Miller, Brad
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2016 2:53 PM
To: krsmith223@gmail.com
CC: Snider, Grace; Stepp, Taylor
Subject: Notes from today's Democrat press conference
Attachments: 4.1.16 Stabalizing Communities in Fiscal Distress.docx;
04.01.16_DEM_Handout.pdf

Hi Rep. Smith,

Per our conversation earlier, attached and below are some notes from today's press conference held by Reps. Kent Smith and Kristin Boggs. Also attached is a document that was handed out at the press conference with additional information and statistics about the proposal.

Dem. caucus press release: <http://www.ohiohouse.gov/democrats/press/lawmakers-push-solution-to-stabilize-31-fiscally-distressed-communities-hit-hard-by-kasichs-budget-cuts>

Article by WBNS 10TV: <http://www.10tv.com/content/stories/2016/04/01/columbus-ohio-dem-lawmakers-push-to-fund-31-ohio-communities-in-fiscal-distress.html> (this includes commentary from the governor's office and analysis by the Buckeye Institute).

Thanks,

Brad Miller

Deputy Communications Director / Press Secretary
Office of Speaker Clifford Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives
(614) 466-8759

04/01/2016 Press Conference: Stabilizing Communities in Fiscal Distress

Rep. Smith:

- 31 communities negatively affected by current and ongoing policy. If we aren't helping these communities what is the rainy day fund for?

Rep. Boggs:

Budget cuts have caused severe consequences in these communities. Cities can't afford many things when we're sitting on this surplus. The state can stabilize these communities but they haven't.

By utilizing 1% of the budget cut funds we can provide much needed stability.

Rep. Smith:

Referenced quotes about Kasich and then stories after that were printed showing that many cities don't have safety services when Kasich thought they were good enough.

In the story 3 houses were lost in the Bender fire. April 15, 2015.

"Rainy day fund is merely a political slogan for governors presidential run."

Questions:

- 1.7 billion comes from many years of tax cuts.
- The state of the state should be an honest accounting of where the state is.
- Some communities have raised their taxes.
- Nearly 26 million would go to 31 communities with this bill.
- Focus of legislation is to replenish what they would have gotten.
- Great job running for president but not a great job running for government.
 - "Maybe God was telling him to keep being Governor"



OHIO HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

News Conference: Stabilizing communities in fiscal distress

April 1, 2016

WE HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO STABILIZE 31 COMMUNITIES HURT BY SIX YEARS OF PASS THE BUCK BUDGETING

Six years after Gov. Kasich and lawmakers at the statehouse made historic cuts to our local communities, the results are clear and alarming for 31 cities, towns and villages that have been put in fiscal distress by the state.

While state government has grown to the largest levels in history (50B in salary, 71.2B GRF), more communities are left without the necessary funds to repair critical infrastructure and provide essential services.

The drastic budget cuts under the Kasich Administration have resulted in fewer dollars returned to communities in which they are generated to help provide essential safety services like police and fire, invest in infrastructure to keep our roads paved and water clean, and provide the quality education our children deserve.

This pass-the-buck budgeting has destabilized communities and kicked tough budget decisions from the state to towns, villages and cities across Ohio.

The Budget Stabilization Funds are intended to be a resource for Ohio communities in times of economic distress. Well, we know that 31 communities are in fiscal distress, in large part because the severe budget cuts and the tax-shifting that results from steep cuts.

By utilizing one percent of the money stockpiled in the Rainy Day Fund, we can help restore the communities hardest hit by the governor's budget cuts and provide some much-needed stability for communities and the citizens that call them home.

If we are not going to step in and stabilize these economically distressed communities, then what is the purpose of the Rainy Day Fund?

BY THE NUMBERS

\$1.7B – Total amount of local government funding cut by Gov. Kasich since taking office.

31 – Number of Ohio communities currently on the auditor's Fiscal Distress list who have received lower Local Government Fund allocations than their FY 2008 total.

\$2B – Amount of taxpayer dollars stockpiled by the state in the Rainy Day Fund.

1% – Percentage of Rainy Day Fund needed to help stabilize 31 communities in fiscal distress because of Gov. Kasich's pass the buck budgeting.

###



OHIO HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

31 COMMUNITIES HURT BY SIX YEARS OF PASS THE BUCK BUDGETING

Community	County	Stabilization Funds
FISCAL EMERGENCY		
Manchester Village	Adams	\$37,843
Manchester Township	Adams	\$84,150
Trimble Village	Athens	\$25,644
St. Clair Township	Butler	\$1,305,472
Clarksville Village	Clinton	\$37,228
City of Galion	Crawford	\$814,943
Tiro Village	Crawford	\$27,272
City of East Cleveland	Cuyahoga	\$6,719,131
City of Maple Heights	Cuyahoga	\$4,079,842
Patterson Village	Hardin	\$7,918
City of Wellston	Jackson	\$420,749
Smithfield Village	Jefferson	\$48,780
West Mansfield Village	Logan	\$122,421
Green Camp Village	Marion	\$41,754
Leipsic Village	Putnam	\$146,973
Bloom Township	Scioto	\$15,925
City of Massillon	Stark	\$2,919,508
City of Niles	Trumbull	\$1,138,019
Newcomerstown Village	Tuscarawas	\$331,582
Edgerton Village	Williams	\$197,800
Portage Village	Wood	\$14,521
FISCAL WATCH		
City of Norwood	Hamilton	\$1,461,504
City of Portsmouth	Scioto	\$3,229,559
FISCAL CAUTION		
Bloomingsburg Village	Fayette	\$52,538
Madison Township	Richland	\$94,174
Franklin Township	Richland	\$57,923
City of Chillicothe	Ross	\$1,574,333
Rarden Township	Scioto	\$4,327
Rush Township	Scioto	\$46,253
Newtown Township	Trumbull	\$211,485
Liberty Township	Trumbull	\$591,155

###

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 6:16 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Ohio Report, Monday, April 11, 2016
Attachments: Apr11.htm; Apr11House.htm; 160411dayplan.htm



Ohio Report for Monday, April 11, 2016

House, Senate Chairs Set Criminal Justice Legislative Priorities For Coming Months

Sunset Review Process About Half Completed; Committee Expected To Wrap Up Work In May

OCMC Subcommittee To Present Congressional Redistricting Proposal Thursday

Bill Would Create Registry Of Parkinson's Patients To Aid In Research, Treatment

Graduates, ODE Tout First-Year Results Of Adult Diploma Program

AEP Names New Ohio COO; EDF Praises Kasich Administration For New Leak Detection Measure For Oil And Gas Facilities...

High Court To Hear Public Records Case Next Week; Oral Arguments Set In Five Other Cases

National Report: Ohio's Affordable Housing Lags Behind Needs Of Low Income Renters

Education Notes: 44 Applicants Seeking Superintendent Job; AG Says College, University Foundations Can Be Audited

Agency Briefs: Elevated Lead Levels Found In Statehouse Drinking Fountain; ODNR Awards Marine Patrol Grants; OEPA; Civil Rights...

Politics Notebook: Strickland Proposes Five Debates, Portman Campaign Aims To Contact 50K Voters; Buckeye Institute Slams Capital Bill; Planned Parenthood And Ohio Right To Life To Hit Statehouse...

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Activity Reports

House

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #85, Report #69 -- Monday, April 11, 2016

House, Senate Chairs Set Criminal Justice Legislative Priorities For Coming Months

The legislator who leads the Senate Criminal Justice Committee said his goal for the group over the next several months is to avoid interfering with the work of the Criminal Recodification Committee.

Chairman Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) said in an interview he does not want to move legislation before lawmakers break for the summer that could be at odds with recommendations from the committee charged with reviewing the state's criminal codes.

"I want to avoid doing anything that is going to be disruptive of the work that the Recodification Committee is doing," he said.

However, Sen. Eklund, a member of the ad hoc panel, also said his standing committee is "not going to be paralyzed."

One of his legislative priorities, he said, is a bipartisan bill (HB 164) sponsored by Rep. John Rodgers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) and Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville).

The measure, which already cleared the House, allows non-violent ex-offenders to have their records sealed if they have complied with all court ordered sanctions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 24, 2016)

"That strikes me as a positive initiative," Sen. Eklund said.

Although acknowledging that the legislation may be too complex to move through the committee before the General Assembly's summer recess, Sen. Eklund said another bill he is very interested in is one that would end the death penalty for those that suffer from certain severe mental illnesses at the time of their crimes.

Sponsored by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) and Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland), the bill (SB 162) is facing opposition from the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 27, 2016)

"It's a big bill. It's an important bill. I don't know that it's something that we can get done that quickly," Sen. Eklund said, adding that discussions with OPAA are ongoing.

Another measure he hopes to get to the Senate floor that he does not feel would conflict with the work of the Recodification Committee is a bill (HB 151) sponsored by Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Independence) designed to combat cyber stalking. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 7, 2015)

On the House side, Chairman Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood), who said he has been in close contact with members of the Recodification Committee, has several legislation priorities he desires to move through the House Judiciary Committee in the coming months. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 29, 2016)

One is a bill (SB 76) sponsored by Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) and Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) that specifies the actual servicing of a protective order or consent agreement to the targeted individual isn't necessary for a violation charge if the person knew of the order and "recklessly violated" its terms. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 30, 2015)

The measure was introduced after the Ohio Supreme Court overturned the conviction of a man because he had not been officially served with a protective order by an officer of the court.

"There some disagreement between the House and Senate on this issue, but I'm optimistic we can come up with a compromise on this bill," Rep. Butler said.

Another priority, according to Rep. Butler is a bill (SB 215) sponsored by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) and Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley Twp.) that would provide civil immunity to those who break into cars to rescue animals or children. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 10, 2016)

"In general I think the concept is a correct one," Rep. Butler said.

He said he also expects to take up a measure (HB 307) sponsored by Rep. Pelanda designed to provide judges with more discretion in imposing driver's license suspensions for drug-related offenses that did not involve a vehicle. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 13, 2015)

Also likely to be a priority for the committee, according to Rep. Butler, is a bill (HB 283) to require DNA testing for certain misdemeanor sex crimes and another bill (HB 268) designed to make it easier for victims of human trafficking to expunge their records.

"I do hope we'll be able to pass those out of committee," Rep. Butler said.

Sunset Review Process About Half Completed; Committee Expected To Wrap Up Work In May

About halfway through the Sunset Review process, dozens of entities have said their services are no longer needed.

"We already have a decent number," said Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander), who chairs the Sunset Review Committee.

In fact, a total of 40 entities have asked to be sunset, including the Labor-Management Government Advisory Council; the Ohio Parks and Recreation Council and the Ohio Housing Study Committee.

Sen. Jordan said he expects more entities will ask to be discontinued as the process moves forward. The panel's next meeting is 3:30 p.m. Tuesday.

"There will be more," he said. "Every time we have hearings, there are a number of agencies and boards that ask to be sunset."

Not only does Sen. Jordan anticipate more entities to ask to be sunset, he also expects the committee to make some cuts of its own.

"There are a few members of the committee that are looking at additional boards and commissions to be addressed," he said, adding additional hearings would likely be necessary in that case to allow the entities to justify their continued existence.

When all is said and done, Sen. Jordan said, he does not expect the process to result in substantial savings for taxpayers. He does, however, hope the committee's work will improve the business climate across the state.

"Hopefully beyond saving some money, it will get government out of the way of different businesses and entrepreneurs," he said.

Sen. Jordan, though, would like to go farther.

"I would probably like to see more get cut than will actually get cut. But it's a committee process," he said. "There may be some on the other side that think we are going a little bit too far."

Sen. Jordan said he expects the committee to wrap up its work in May and issue a report some time thereafter.

"I'm not sure if we are actually going to get the bill passed until later in the year," he said.

Once a bill is introduced, Sen. Jordan said he hopes for it to garner widespread support.

"It depends on how far we go," he said. "I would like to get a bill that most people can agree to."

The review process occurs every six years. Nearly 80 boards, commissions and study panels were eliminated through legislation (SB171, 129th General Assembly) enacted at the end of the last Sunset Review process.

OCMC Subcommittee To Present Congressional Redistricting Proposal Thursday

Members of an Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission subcommittee plan to have an updated congressional redistricting proposal formed in time for committee discussion Thursday.

The OCMC's Legislative Branch and Executive Branch Committee is scheduled to meet at 2:30 p.m. Thursday - the first meeting since a four-member subcommittee began working in February to reach a compromise agreement on revamping the redistricting process in the spirit of Issue 1.

The full committee initially intended to vote on the measure at its February meeting before several last minute amendments halted the process. Chairman Fred Mills then appointed the subcommittee to come to an agreement on those changes within six weeks. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 4, 2016)

Two months later, discussions are ongoing.

But subcommittee member Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) said in an interview that subcommittee members and staff should have a proposal finalized in time for the committee to discuss it at Thursday's meeting.

"We'll have something to present to the committee on Thursday on where we are," Sen. Tavares said. "We've had discussions with interested parties, with members of the subcommittee, and kind of gone back and forth."

Although the subcommittee has had no informal meetings since its first meeting in March, she said members and staff have continued their discussion over the last month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 9, 2016)

She described the discussions as positive and said she expects the final proposal, which could still be changed by the committee, will honor the spirit of Issue 1, which handed over the legislative mapmaking process to a newly created bipartisan committee.

"We just want to make sure the proposal and our discussion has been focused on how the lines would be drawn and not who is drawing them, which is a good step forward," she said.

Should the subcommittee fail to reach an agreement by Thursday's meeting, members will likely still report to the committee by updating members on its progress.

"The subcommittee will probably present where they are on Thursday and our hopes are we will have something the subcommittee can say is a consensus report because we really want the rules for drawing congressional districts to be specific so it would be difficult for either party to engage in gerrymandering," Sen. Tavares said.

The Thursday unveiling would come just more than a week since Gov. John Kasich's State of the State address, in which the governor doubled down on his call for

lawmakers to embrace change to congressional redistricting. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2016)

"When pure politics is what drives these kinds of decisions the result is polarization and division," the governor said in the speech. "I think we've had enough of it."

Still, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) and House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) have given indications the General Assembly will be sluggish in picking up discussion of the OCMC proposal if it clears the commission.

Sen. Faber said the issue isn't part of his forthcoming agenda, while Rep. Rosenberger called legislative and congressional redistricting are "apples and oranges." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2016)

Bill Would Create Registry Of Parkinson's Patients To Aid In Research, Treatment

A recently introduced bill would make Ohio the fifth state to track data on people who have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

The bill (HB 499), sponsored by Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R-Grove City) and Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton), would authorize the Department of Health to create a registry of patients with Parkinson's and other movement disorders.

Franklin County Auditor Clarence Mingo, who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and helped write the bill, joined Rep. Grossman at a Statehouse news conference Monday, saying that the database is a step toward improving care and research on the condition.

"This data is useful and absolutely necessary not only in the treatment of Parkinson's disease but also in understanding it and thereafter reaching for a cure," Mr. Mingo said.

If the bill passes, Ohio would be the fifth state to create a database of Parkinson's patients, after Utah, California, Nebraska and Washington.

"It will assist us in gathering data that will help researchers in the state and throughout the nation better understand what's happening here in the state of Ohio with that particular disease," Mr. Mingo said. "Understanding that will help us dedicate resources, it will help us identify those who need those resources to the extreme and it will also help us understand, categorially, how it is we should go about finding a cure for Parkinson's disease and otherwise treating it."

About 1 million people have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease nationwide, Mr. Mingo said, but it's unclear how many people suffer from the condition in Ohio.

"Whether it's 200,000 or 200, we need to know that and understand what's happening here in the state of Ohio with people with Parkinson's disease," he said.

The data would also help shed some light on who the condition affects. Many people who suffer from Parkinson's are elderly, and Mr. Mingo said that means the number of people diagnosed will increase as the population gets older. While the common perception is that it mostly affects, older people, he said it affects many others. Mr. Mingo is 44 and publicly announced his diagnosis in 2013.

The bill would allow ODH to draw up rules regarding exactly how the registry would work. The database would allow ODH to release summary data to show trends and help with research. It's unclear at the moment how much the program would cost.

Mr. Mingo said it would also help patients by helping connect them with others who are going through the same thing.

"When you're initially diagnosed with a condition like this your immediate instinct is to look around within your family, throughout your peers and those you know and try to see who else has this disease and what does it mean for a person's life to walk with it," he said.

Rep. Grossman said the bill is another step toward helping those suffering from Parkinson's and other movement disorders.

"Whatever we can do to help the quality of life for Ohioans in meaningful ways, there should be no hesitancy to be able to achieve that goal," she said.

Graduates, ODE Tout First-Year Results Of Adult Diploma Program

The State Board of Education on Monday recognized graduates of the state's adult diploma program, who were among 78 Ohioans to earn diplomas during the pilot year.

The program, which was created through a previous mid-biennium review budget bill (HB 483, 130th General Assembly), enrolls Ohioans ages 22 and older at community colleges and career technical centers where they can simultaneously work toward a diploma and credentials in an in-demand career field.

Stark State Community College, Pickaway-Ross Joint Vocational School, Miami Valley Career Technical Center, Cuyahoga Community College and Penta Career Center were involved in the pilot program, which began this school year. Three other sites received funding through the state budget and will begin accepting students in July. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 13, 2015)

"This is probably one of the most exciting things I've had the opportunity to participate in," said Steve Gratz, Senior Executive Director for Student Support and Education Options for the Department of Education.

"This is a game-changer for people. Not only for those individuals, for their families and their communities and so I am just so pleased," he added, saying he believes the program is the first of its kind in the country to offer a diploma issued by the State Board of Education.

Program graduates also spoke to the board, sharing emotional stories of how their lives have been changed for the better because of the credentials and job training they've received.

The state covers the cost of the program, reimbursing pilot sites as students hit milestones, Mr. Gratz said. Because the program is competency based, students work at their own paces toward diplomas.

Michelle Profit, who attended Miami Valley Career Tech, told the board that she couldn't focus in GED classes or during tests so she was never able to obtain a certificate after dropping out of high school during her sophomore year.

Twenty-six years later, she said her dreams of finishing high school have come true thanks to the state offering an additional pathway for individuals older than 21 who never graduated.

"Not only has it fulfilled my heart's desire but it has also given my family a brighter tomorrow," Ms. Profit said, adding that she earned nursing credentials through the program and now works at a hospital.

The law requires pilot sites to offer general instruction in conjunction with training for in-demand jobs that have been identified through OhioMeansJobs and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. To be included on the list, the job must pay at least \$12.54 per hour, which is about \$26,000 per year.

Board members offered support for the graduates, who filled the meeting room and encouraged the administration to continue the program into the next biennium.

"What you've accomplished makes you an inspiration to all of us, especially the more than one million Ohioans who don't have a diploma," Board President Tom Gunlock said.

The state budget included \$5 million in Fiscal Year 2017 to continue the expanded pilot program.

In addition to the Adult Diploma Program, the state has two other options for adults who didn't earn a high school diploma: The GED program and the 22+ program, which is tailored to those who are already employed and are just a few credits short of high school graduation.

AEP Names New Ohio COO; EDF Praises Kasich Administration For New Leak Detection Measure For Oil And Gas Facilities...

AEP has selected Senior Vice President and Treasurer Julie Sloat as the next president and chief operating officer of its Ohio utility unit.

Ms. Sloat will begin her new post May 2, the company announced Monday. She will succeed outgoing President and COO Pablo Vegas, who in March accepted an executive leadership position at Columbia Gas of Ohio parent NiSource. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 15, 2016)

AEP Executive Vice President and COO Robert Powers, who will oversee Ms. Sloat in her new role, said her regulatory and financial expertise "will serve us well as we continue our focus on making investments that provide more reliable service, develop renewable power resources and give our Ohio customers tools to control how and when they use electricity."

The company said it expects to soon name a new treasurer to succeed Ms. Sloat.

Ms. Sloat has served as senior vice president and treasurer since January 2013, according to the company, where she oversees the company's treasury, trusts and investments. Between 2009-2013, she was vice president of regulatory case management.

"As important as her business acumen, Julie is able to connect with and develop positive, mutually beneficial relationships with people," Mr. Powers said.

"A native of Bolivar, Ohio, and graduate of the Ohio State University, Julie has strong ties with Ohio companies and community organizations. She knows and loves the Buckeye State and will be focused on how AEP Ohio can best serve our customers and benefit Ohio's economy," he said.

Gas Leaks: The Environmental Defense Fund praised Gov. John Kasich's administration for new plans to reduce air pollution stemming from the oil and gas industry.

Earlier this month, the administration announced it plans to require permits for new and modified equipment at compressor stations, which would require those companies to check for leaks quarterly.

The EDF said those checks will help catch leaking Volatile Organic Compounds and methane, which it said contribute to global warming.

"We applaud Gov. Kasich for, once again, stepping forward to deliver clean air protections that Ohio communities deserve and joining other leading states in regulating harmful methane emissions," EDF President Fred Krupp said in a statement. "Today's announcement underscores that fast-growing recognition that, for natural gas to meet its promise as a lower-carbon fuel, methane emissions can't go unchecked."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has estimated the natural gas sector could be emitting up to 1.7 million metric tons of methane.

"Requiring operators to systematically check equipment for leaks is a proven, cost-effective way to reduce harmful emissions and associated risks to public health and the environment," Senior State Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Manager Andrew Williams said. "We commend the administration for taking this important step and look forward to working with OEPA and other stakeholders to strengthen the proposal."

Ozone Standard: State regulators and interest groups are pushing back on a recent U.S. EPA white paper that they say fails to adequately account for background ozone under a newly lowered federal ozone standard.

Such ozone cannot be controlled by a state because it stems from a natural event, such as a wildfire, or enters the state from another state, according to the Center for Regulatory Solutions.

More than a dozen entities, including state agencies, air quality experts, and business groups have submitted comments protesting what they call "serious flaws" in the paper. They're arguing that the EPA's failure to account for background ozone would "unfairly punish Western states and compromise their ability to comply with the stringent" air quality guidelines adopted last year.

In October, the EPA announced a long-awaited move to lower the federal ozone standard from 75 parts per billion to 70 parts per billion. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 1, 2015)

"The agency suggests that the relief mechanisms in the statute are sufficient to address the rare instances where background ozone pushes a state out of compliance," according to the center's comments. "To the contrary, our review reveals that neither assertion is accurate or substantiated by the facts. What is clear, however, is that EPA is trying to regulate something for which the science is still not fully understood."

High Court To Hear Public Records Case Next Week; Oral Arguments Set In Five Other Cases

An attorney representing the Ohio Innocence Project next week will argue that the Ohio Supreme Court should overturn a 1994 ruling and compel the Columbus Division of Police to provide him access to the case file of a man convicted of a 2007 murder.

Cincinnati attorney Donald Caster will argue that the court's ruling in *State ex rel. Steckman v. Jackson* should be overturned because of revision to Criminal Rule 16 made in 2010, the court reported.

In *Steckman*, the court ruled that access to law enforcement evidentiary records should be determined by the discovery rules for criminal cases rather than the Ohio Public Records Act.

Mr. Caster will argue that the that 2010 rule change paved the way for the court to overturn the 1994 decision and allow for the examination of investigatory records once a trial begins.

CDP will argue that it is following the law laid out in the *Steckman* case in denying the records request of Mr. Caster.

According to the court, CDP will claim that many of the records are "specific investigatory work product," which includes personal notes, working papers, memoranda and evidentiary findings, all of which were exempted from public record law in a 1997 case.

The Innocence Network and the Ohio Coalition for Open Government have filed briefs in support of Mr. Caster's case.

The court will hear five other cases next week:

- In *Jackson v. State*, a death row inmate will appeal his sentence arguing that the judge did not take mitigating factors into account at a resentencing hearing.
- In *250 Shoup Mill v. Tax Commissioner*, the court will decide if a non-profit real estate company that leases property to a Dayton charter school and is owned by a charter-school corporation is eligible for a property tax exemption.
- In *Jacobson v. Kaforey*, the court will determine if a woman, who as a child was assigned a conservator who then sent her to live with an uncle in Florida, can file a lawsuit claiming the conservator and a hospital violated the law.
- In *Aalim v. State*, A juvenile facing aggravated robbery charges in adult court will argue that the statute allowing his case to be moved from the juvenile system is unconstitutional because the juvenile court judge was not given an opportunity to determine if he would be responsive to rehabilitation in the juvenile system.
- In *State v. Jones*, The court will decide if a Cleveland man convicted of a 1993 more than 20 years later should be subject to sentencing laws at the time of the offense.

The latter two cases, along with the public records case, will be heard on April 20 at Meigs High School in Pomeroy as part of the court's off-site program.

National Report: Ohio's Affordable Housing Lags Behind Needs Of Low Income Renters

A new national analysis of U.S. Census data shows Ohio by and large has just 38 affordable and available housing units for every 100 extremely low income renter households.

But Ohio isn't alone, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, which analyzed the data. The Buckeye State joins 49 other states and Washington D.C. in not being able to adequately meet the housing needs of impoverished residents.

The report, called "The Gap: The Affordable Housing Gap Analysis 2016," examines PUMS data - the most detailed level of data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. In doing so, the group determined that "clearly a new approach is needed to address the housing needs of households with the lowest incomes."

That's because the United States has 7.2 million too few affordable rental units available to those considered "extremely low income," which is defined as those with an income at or below 30% of the area median income.

Of those ELI renters, 75% were "severely cost-burdened, spending more than half of their income on rent and utilities," according to the study. In all states, at least 55% of ELI renters put more than half their incomes toward rent and utilities, according to the group.

NLIHC Vice President of Research Andrew Aurand said the study "reveals an alarming reality about housing for extremely low income households."

"What is frustrating is the lack of timely action to address the issue," Mr. Aurand said. "Millions of people in America are living in unaffordable rental homes. They are forced to cut their spending on food, transportation and health to pay rent."

In Ohio, there were 274,346 too few units for ELI households. In all, 71% of ELI households demonstrated a severe housing cost burden.

Of Ohio's three largest metropolitan areas, each had a deficit of housing units per 100 households at or below the ELI threshold. But only Columbus had a number of available units below the national level.

Of those metro areas:

- The Columbus area required 55,675 more affordable housing units to adequately serve extremely low income renters
- The Cincinnati area - including portions of Kentucky and Indiana - had 47,486 too few units for that population
- The Cleveland-Elyria area had 55,579 too few units

Of all states, North Dakota fared the best, but that state still had a shortage with 64 affordable and available units per 100 ELI households. Nevada, in contrast, fared the worst nationally with 17 units per 100 such households.

Sheila Crowley, who recently retired as the group's president and CEO, said more funding to the National Housing Trust Fund would help close the gap.

So would success of the group's ongoing campaign United for Homes, she said, which lobbies for reducing the portion of a mortgage eligible for tax breaks from \$1 million to \$500,000 and changing the deduction to a 15% non-refundable tax credit. She said those moves would save up to \$200 billion in the next decade that could be invested into the trust fund.

"The National Housing Trust Fund was explicitly created to address the most critical housing needs in our country, housing affordable to those with the lowest income," Ms. Crowley said. "We can end homelessness and housing poverty in America without adding a penny to the federal deficit through the United for Homes campaign. All we need is the will."

Education Notes: 44 Applicants Seeking Superintendent Job; AG Says College, University Foundations Can Be Audited

The State Board of Education this week will begin reviewing the qualifications of 44 applicants who are looking to be the next superintendent of public instruction.

Board President Tom Gunlock said the applications will be made public on Wednesday and board members will have until April 28 to pick five candidates that they would like to interview.

Ray & Associates, a contracted search firm, is reviewing the applications that were due Friday and will also select the five interviewees, he said.

The goal is to complete interviews in May and select a superintendent shortly after, the board president said.

"Hopefully somebody will come to the forefront and we can get this done. If not, we may have to call people back for additional interviews, but hopefully we can get this thing done sometime in May," Mr. Gunlock said in an interview.

The chosen candidate, who will be paid \$210,000-\$250,000 annually, will replace former superintendent Dick Ross, who retired in December. Lonny Rivera, who has been serving as interim superintendent, said last year he wasn't interested in applying for the permanent post.

Foundation Audits: State Auditor Dave Yost is clear to continue reviewing the financial records of college and university foundations, per an Attorney General's opinion.

AG Mike DeWine recently issued an opinion stating that the foundations, which raise private funds to support the public institutions, are considered public entities and therefore subject to audits.

"We conclude that a public college or university foundation established as a private nonprofit corporation under R.C. Chapter 1702, the primary purpose of which is to solicit and receive, on behalf of a state college or university, gifts, donations, and bequests made for the benefit or use of the state college or university, and which is responsible for keeping records of donations for the state college or university, is an entity established by the laws of this state for the exercise of a function of government, and is, therefore, a public office," according to the legal opinion.

Yost spokesman Benjamin Marrison said the office requested clarification on foundation audits following push back from the University of Toledo and Youngstown State University. The latter hired legal counsel to debate the auditor's characterization of its foundation as a public entity late last year, Mr. Marrison said.

The opinion ensures that the auditor can examine foundation funds as he sees fit.

"We are pleased, but not surprised, that the attorney general agrees that these funds - collected on behalf of universities to benefit universities - are public dollars and subject to the scrutiny of state auditors," Mr. Yost said.

The office has been contracting with audit firms to examine college and university foundations as part of regular audits for more than 20 years, Mr. Marrison said.

Agency Briefs: Elevated Lead Levels Found In Statehouse Drinking Fountain; ODNR Awards Marine Patrol Grants; OEPA; Civil Rights...

The Capitol Square Review & Advisory Board on Monday tested water in the Statehouse after previous testing found elevated lead levels in a single drinking fountain.

Columbus news station NBC4 collected water samples in the building and testing showed that a fountain on the first floor of the Senate building had a "slightly elevated lead level," according to CSRAB.

To verify the tests, CSRAB completed its own and is expecting results to be available by Friday. All 17 drinking fountains and four kitchenettes in the Statehouse and Senate Building were tested.

The drinking fountain that was identified as having elevated lead levels was taken out of service last Friday when the results of the NBC4 tests were provided to officials, CSRAB said.

Natural Resources: The agency's Division of Watercraft will provide 24 communities with more than \$576 million to support marine patrol units.

"The 2016 Marine Patrol Assistance Grants will help local law enforcement agencies provide emergency response to boating-related incidents, conduct routine waterway patrols and purchase safety equipment for use on marine patrol vessels," according to an ODNR release.

As the number of registered recreational watercraft has increased in recent years, boating-related fatalities have decreased, the agency noted.

In 2015, a record 474,601 watercraft were registered, representing a growth of almost 40,000 in the last three years. Boating related fatalities, meanwhile, have decreased 12% since 1996.

Environmental Protection Agency: A public hearing is set for April 18 to gather input on a wastewater treatment plant expansion in Grove City.

The Ohio EPA said the expansion that discharges to a tributary of Big Darby Creek "would allow Franklin County to retire older wastewater treatment plants and would not accommodate new development."

The agency will take comments on the plans at 6 p.m. at Pleasant View Middle School, 7255 Knopp Road, Grove City. Comments can also be submitted to epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov or EPA-DSW, Attention Permits Processing unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Civil Rights Commission: The commission is requesting nominations for its 2016 class of the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

The 8th annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony will recognize Ohioans who have been leaders in human and civil rights issues in the state and have advanced quality and inclusion, according to a commission release.

Nominations are due by July 1 for the ceremony that will be held Oct. 6.

Politics Notebook: Strickland Proposes Five Debates, Portman Campaign Aims To Contact 50K Voters; Buckeye Institute Slams Capital Bill; Planned Parenthood And Ohio Right To Life To Hit Statehouse...

After refusing to debate primary opponent P.G. Sittenfeld, former Gov. Ted Strickland is now calling on Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) to accept at least five debates in his bid to oust the first-term incumbent.

In a letter to Sen. Portman, Mr. Strickland writes that he looks "forward to a spirited and vigorous campaign; one in which we outline our positions on key issues affecting the people of Ohio."

"Towards that end, I would like to propose a series of debates designed to highlight our priorities and the genuine policy differences that exist between us," the letter continues.

Mr. Strickland proposes the debates be held across the state, one in each region. He also called for the debates to be held in August, September and October.

"Collectively, we can demonstrate to the people of Ohio that we are committed to an open and fruitful discussion of the issues and in the process help inform the voters of the choice they face with this election," the letter reads.

Portman campaign spokeswoman Michawn Rich said in a statement the campaign looks forward to comparing and contrasting the two candidates' records.

"This comes as a welcome surprise given that after a year of refusing to debate, Ted Strickland and his 'invisible' campaign had a change of heart and are now committed to an 'open and fruitful discussion of the issues,'" Ms. Rich said. "As Ted Strickland and his campaign are well aware, we are already receiving debate requests and we look forward to finalizing details with his staff."

Sen. Portman's campaign meanwhile announced a goal of contacting 50,000 voters on April 23 through an effort it has dubbed "Super Saturday."

During a previous "Super Saturday" in October, more than 600 volunteers contacted upwards of 41,000 voters in one day, according to the campaign.

"We are building the most advanced grassroots organization in Ohio history and we are excited about working with thousands of volunteers that know Ohio can't afford to go back to Ted Strickland's Ohio," Ms. Rich said.

"While Ted Strickland runs his 'invisible' campaign, we are proud to work with our impressive team of volunteers and interns who have helped us contact more than 1.5 million voters since last May," he continued. "Ohio voters will have a clear choice in November between moving forward with Rob's pro-growth policies for better wages and more jobs, or returning to Ted Strickland's failed policies of higher taxes, more regulations, and bigger government."

Capital Bill: Ahead of the release of the capital bill (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 8, 2016), the Buckeye Institute is slamming the \$150 million likely to be set aside for local projects.

"At a time where critical infrastructure needs are emerging across the state, spending state dollars on items that should be paid for locally is not an optimal use of scarce resources," Greg Lawson, the organization's Statehouse liaison and policy analyst, said in a statement. "Ohio policymakers should focus on what is really needed to help the state prosper while letting local taxpayers make local decisions."

In a report issued, the organization lists what it believes to be the "five most ridiculous capital budget requests of 2016." They include:

- \$10.6 million for a "Triumph of Flight" statute at I-70 and I-75 in Dayton
- \$2 million to renovate an exhibit at the Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

- \$1.5 million to refurbish parts of Mapfre Stadium in Columbus
- \$150,000 for the Madcap Productions theater and exhibit hall
- \$50,000-\$100,000 for the Bowling Green Curling Club ice rink

Abortion: Both sides of the abortion debate will converge on the Statehouse this week.

Ohio Right to Life will hold a Legislative Day on Tuesday at the Statehouse in which anti-abortion advocates will lobby for the "Down Syndrome Non-Discrimination Act."

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio on Wednesday will hold Freedom of Choice Ohio's Annual Advocacy Day, beginning at Trinity Episcopal Church and moving to the Statehouse.

"Ohio, like many states, has seen an increase in barriers to women's access to vital and high quality health care services," the group stated. "This coordinated effort is part of a larger strategy that is being used nationwide to eventually remove access to safe and legal abortion."

Black Lung Measure: Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) on Monday touted the introduction of a bill (HB 510) designed to help protect coal miners who are diagnosed with black lung.

"Dealing with black lung disease is a tough reality for many of Ohio's coal miners who work some of our hardest and most dangerous jobs," he said in a statement. "Providing a fair opportunity for benefits as they deal with this debilitating disease is important for the miners and their families. I hope that my colleagues in the legislature will agree."

The legislation would create a workers' compensation process similar to that in West Virginia for coal miners with black lung.

"A miner who lives in Ohio but worked in West Virginia can currently receive at least partial benefits through West Virginia, but a miner who lives and works in Ohio has a more difficult time being approved for benefits," Rep. Cera said. "This bill will help provide a miner who has contracted black lung to have a better chance of receiving at least some benefit to help them through this difficult time."

Kasich Schedule: Gov. John Kasich has four campaign events scheduled this week in New York ahead of the state's presidential primary next week.

Gov. Kasich held two town hall events on Monday, including one hosted by Fox News' Sean Hannity, along with a press availability.

On Tuesday, the governor is set to deliver a speech in New York City on the "Two Paths" facing the American electorate in 2016.

GOP Dinner: The Ohio Republican Party's 2016 state dinner will feature radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt as the keynote speaker.

The June 4 event will also feature Sen. Portman.

Equal Pay: Democrats on Tuesday will hold a press conference in Akron to coincide with Equal Pay Day.

The event, which will feature Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper and Summit County Clerk of Courts Sandra Kurt, will highlight the gender pay disparity, which Democrats says amounts to about \$10,597 between men and women who work full time in the state.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, April 12

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8 a.m.

Thursday, April 14

Criminal Justice Recodification Committee, House Finance Hearing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 1 p.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, April 12

Legislative leaders news conference on capital bill, Harding Senate Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

House Democrats news conference on bill to restrict local hiring options, PLAs (SB152), George Washington Williams Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

State leaders news conference on efforts to boost fight against prescription drug abuse, CompDrug Inc., 1420 Fields Ave., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 13

Immunization Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse

Ohio Library Council Legislative Day, Statehouse, Columbus, (The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's Mobile Technology Lab will be parked and available for tours on the Third Street side of the Senate Bldg. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Freedom of Choice Ohio's Annual Advocacy Day, Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St. & Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Ohio Library Council news conference on ROI report, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 11

Sen. Capri Cafaro (D-Hubbard) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host - \$1000; Sponsor - \$750; Friend - \$500 to Friends of Senator Cafaro)

Saturday, June 4

Ohio Republican Party 2016 State Dinner, Hyatt Regency Ballroom, 350 N. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (See <https://www.ohiogop.org/statedinner/> for more information)

Tuesday, June 7

Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus fundraiser, Huntington Park, 330 Huntington Park Ln., Columbus, 6 p.m., (Private Reception at 6 PM - Game starts at 7:05 PM; Contribution Levels: Host - \$1,500; Sponsor - \$1,000; Friend - \$750 to Ohio Senate Democrats)

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House Activity for Monday, April 11, 2016

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 133 ■ **AWARENESS MONTH** (Beagle, B.) To designate June as "Scleroderma Awareness Month."

HB 57 ■ **MURDER SENTENCING** (Maag, R.) To change the sentence for aggravated murder.

HB 165 ■ **HUNTING** (Green, D.) To allow an individual on active military duty, while on leave or furlough, to hunt deer or wild turkey without procuring a deer or wild turkey permit.

HB 335 ■ **COURT JURISDICTION** (Craig, H., Grossman, C.) To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court.

SCR 2 ■ **DIABETES RESEARCH** (Balderson, T., Gentile, L.) To urge the United States Congress to increase federal funding for research and development involving advanced medical technology used in the treatment of type 1 diabetes.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS

State Government: Remove Representative LaTourette; appoint Representative Young

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, April 12

Legislative Committees

House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 116, 8:30 a.m.

- SB 152** **CONTRACTOR LABOR** (Uecker, J.) To prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor to employ a certain percentage of individuals from the geographic area of the public authority for the construction or professional design of a public improvement. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 239** **DAY DESIGNATION** (Hughes, J.) To designate August 7 as Ohio Purple Heart Day. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 341** **TRANSPORTATION LAWS** (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
- HB 449** **DAY DESIGNATION** (Romanchuk, M., Amstutz, R.) To designate February 3 as "Charles Follis Day." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 32** **EDUCATION ACT** (McColley, R.) To urge the United States Congress to pass the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2015. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- House Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9 a.m.
- HB 302** **ANNEXATION** (Henne, M., Butler, J.) To provide that, beginning five years after a type-II annexation is approved, the annexed territory is subject to a fire, police, or EMS tax levy only if the levy is imposed by the subdivision that provides the fire, police, or EMS service to the territory. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- HB 413** **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (Brinkman, T.) To add to the purposes for which a board of township trustees may go into executive session, to permit a township to charge for recycling services, to reduce the population threshold for a township to adopt a limited home rule form of government, to authorize a township to purchase, lease, or provide underwater rescue and recovery equipment for fire and rescue purposes, to authorize boards of township trustees to pay for group life insurance for any employee, to make other

changes to the township laws, to allow taxing units to use the proceeds of a fire, police, or emergency services tax levy to pay costs related to the service for which the tax is levied, and to expand the public infrastructure improvements townships, municipal corporations, and counties may pay for using money from their public improvement tax increment equivalent funds. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 455 **BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE** (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 462 **POLICE DISTRICT** (Hagan, C., Sprague, R.) To establish a joint police district, to modify the membership of a joint police district governing body, to expand the offense of solicitation to also apply to a person who agrees with another to engage with the other person in sexual activity for hire, to provide that the "prescription exemption" from the drug possession offenses does not apply to a person who uses more of the drug than the maximum prescribed amount per day or the maximum amount to be used within the prescription timeline or who administers or takes the drug in a manner not prescribed by the prescribing health professional, and to provide immunity from civil liability to a peace officer who administers naloxone to a person who is apparently experiencing an opioid-related overdose. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (**Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981**), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

HB 303 **DEED PROGRAM** (Dever, J., McColley, R.) To create the D.O.L.L.A.R. Deed Program. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 229 **TRUST LAW** (Hambley, S., Bishoff, H.) To create the Ohio Family Trust Company Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 175 **TRUST COMPANY LAW** (Eklund, J.) To create the Ohio Family Trust Company Act. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

SB 226 **DEBT ADJUSTING** (Seitz, B.) Regarding debt adjusting. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (**Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474**), Rm. 119, 10 a.m.

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (**Chr. Uecker, J., 466-8082**), Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

SB 257 **REAL PROPERTY** (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 167 **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION** (Sweeney, M.) Regarding the term of a General Assembly member as a member of the Legislative Service Commission. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- SB 275** **PHOTO MONITORING** (Patton, T.) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 26** **MILITARY BRATPIN** (Sears, B., Dovilla, M.) To express support for the Military BratPin. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 87** **DAY DESIGNATION** (Slesnick, S.) To designate October 7 as Moses Fleetwood Walker Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 31** **STATE ROCK SONG** (Grossman, C., Stinziano, M.) To designate "Hang on Sloopy," which includes the following lyrics, as the official state rock song: Hang on Sloopy, Sloopy hang on; Sloopy lives in a very bad part of town; All the girls I know they try to put my Sloopy down; Sloopy, I don't care what your daddy do; Don't you know little girl, I'm in love with you; Sloopy, let your hair down, let it down on me; Come on Sloopy let your hair down, Girl it down on me. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Insurance** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838**), **South Hearing Rm., 10:30 a.m.**
- SB 27** **FIREFIGHTER CANCER** (Patton, T.) To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 95** **DENTAL SERVICES** (DeVitis, T.) To prohibit a health insurer from establishing a fee schedule for dental providers that are not covered by any contract or participating provider agreement between the health insurer and the dental provider. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- HB 207** **WORKERS COMPENSATION** (Henne, M., McColley, R.) To allow a state fund employer to have a workers' compensation claim that is likely to be subrogated by a third party paid from the surplus fund account in the state insurance fund rather than charged to the employer's experience (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- House Session** (**Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357**), **House Chamber, 11 a.m.**
Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (**Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584**), **Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.**
Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (**Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150**), **North Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.**
- HB 178** **WINE SALES** (Manning, N.) To establish the F-10 liquor permit to authorize certain A-2 permit holders to sell Ohio wines at farmers markets. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible amendments)
- HB 342** **WINERY PERMITS** (Young, R.) To create the Ohio Farm Winery Permit. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 37** **ALCOHOL POSSESSION** (Duffey, M., Stinziano, M.) To allow a person to possess beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises of a market if the beer or intoxicating liquor has been purchased from a D liquor permit holder that is located in the market. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
- HB 60** **COMPANION ANIMAL ABUSE** (Hall, D., Patmon, B.) To revise provisions and penalties regarding treatment of companion animals, to revise the definition of "companion animal" in the Offenses Relating to Domestic Animals Law, and to provide a state collaborative effort to assist veterinarians in identifying clients who may use their animals to secure opioids for abuse. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 1 p.m.

- SB 264** **TAX HOLIDAY** (Bacon, K.) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2016 during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 130** **DATA OHIO BOARD** (Hagan, C., Duffey, M.) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)
- HB 391** **FINANCIAL LITERACY** (Terhar, L.) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 483** **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES** (Amstutz, R.) To modify programs administered by the Department of Developmental Disabilities and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m.

- HB 227** **COSMETOLOGY LAW** (Roegner, K., Reece, A.) To make changes to the Cosmetology Licensing Law. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)
- HB 183** **STUDENT TRUSTEES** (Antani, N., Stinziano, M.) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- HB 444** **ALCOHOL SAMPLES** (Blessing, L.) To allow certain D liquor permit holders to provide free tasting samples of beer, wine, and spirituous liquor to a person who is 21 years old or older and a paying customer of the permit holder. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

House Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 122, 2 p.m. or after session

HB 172 CRIMINAL RECORDS (Barnes, J.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

- **1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending introduction & referral of capital appropriations bill.**

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. McClain, J., 644-6265), Rm. 121, 3 p.m.

HB 404 SALES TAX REFUNDS (Schaffer, T.) To allow vendors to deduct or apply for a refund of sales tax remitted for bad debts on private label credit cards used to make purchases from the vendor. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 172 BULLION TAXES (Jordan, K.) To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale or use of investment metal bullion and coins. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 466 TAX EXEMPTION (Smith, R.) To specifically exempt digital advertising services from sales and use tax. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

HB 150 HOTEL INTERMEDIARIES (Grossman, C., Scherer, G.) To require hotel intermediaries to collect and remit applicable sales and use tax on the full amount paid for hotel lodging, to require hotel intermediaries to supply customers with itemized invoices, to specify that a hotel intermediary is presumed to have "substantial nexus" with Ohio if the intermediary arranges lodging at Ohio hotels, and to specify that hotels are not liable for the failure of a hotel intermediary to properly collect or remit applicable taxes. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.

HB 432 ESTATE LAW (Rezabek, J.) To revise the law governing decedent's estates by making changes in the Ohio Trust Code, the Probate Law, the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the Transfers to Minors Act, and the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 339 FOREIGN LAW (Young, R.) To prohibit courts, administrative agencies, and arbitrators from applying foreign law to the detriment of constitutional rights under the United States and Ohio constitutions. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

HB 268 HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Hall, D., Dever, J.) To expand the list of human trafficking-related convictions and delinquency adjudications that may be expunged, to increase the penalties for compelling prostitution and promoting

prostitution, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

- HB 362** **STRANGULATION** (Stinziano, M., Kunze, S.) To prohibit a person from knowingly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of another by strangulation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- HB 38** **PRISON TERMS** (Patmon, B.) To create specifications that impose an additional prison term upon an offender who commits a felony offense against a disabled person or an elderly person and increase the period of commitment to the Department of Youth Services for committing an act that would be a felony offense against a disabled person or an elderly person if committed by an adult, for felony offenses that do not delineate enhanced penalties when a disabled person or an elderly person is the victim of the violation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 451** **PROTECTION ORDERS** (Boose, T.) To provide that an individual's statutory priority to decide whether or not to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for the individual's relative is forfeited if the individual is the subject of a temporary protection order or civil protection order and the relative is the alleged victim or if the individual and the relative are married and the parties to a divorce, dissolution, legal separation, or annulment proceeding. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Johnson, T.**, 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m.
- SB 84** **FLAG DISPLAY** (Coley, B.) To prohibit manufactured homes park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of Ohio flags and blue star banners, gold star banners, and other service flags, and to prohibit manufactured homes park operators and landlords from restricting the display of the United States flag. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 464** **NATIONAL GUARD SCHOLARSHIPS** (Terhar, L., Brinkman, T.) To specify that a National Guard scholarship recipient who fails to complete the recipient's term of enlistment in the National Guard due to enlistment, warrant, commission, or appointment in the United States armed forces is not liable for repayment of the scholarship. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 388** **OVI OFFENSES** (Scherer, G.) To authorize a court to grant unlimited driving privileges with an ignition interlock device to first-time OVI offenders, to expand the penalties related to ignition interlock device violations, to modify the law governing the installation and monitoring of ignition interlock devices, to extend the look back period for OVI and OVI-related offenses from six to ten years, and to modify the penalties for OVI offenses. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

- SB 123** **TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS** (Hughes, J.) To allow emergency personnel in public safety vehicles to report traffic law violations under certain circumstances. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- SCR 9** **IRAN AGREEMENT** (Uecker, J.) To urge the Congress of the United States to disapprove the Iranian nuclear agreement known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- Sunset Review Committee** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104**), **South Hearing Rm., 3:30 p.m.**
- **Reviews of Education Management Information System Advisory Board, English Language Arts Academic Standards Review Committee, Mathematics Academic Standards Review Committee, Science Academic Standards Review Committee, Social Studies Academic Standards Review Committee, Straight A Program Advisory Committee, Straight A Program Governing Board, Advisory Board to Assist and Advise in the Operation of the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence, Board of Voting Machines Examiners, Workers' Compensation Board of Directors Nominating Committee, Technical Advisory Committee to Assist Director of the Ohio Coal Development Office, Supervisory Investigative Panel of the State Dental Board, Barber Board**
- House Community & Family Advancement** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Derickson, T., 644-5094**), **Rm. 114, 4 p.m.**
- HB 298** **DRUG TESTING** (Schaffer, T., Maag, R.) To require applicants for unemployment benefits to submit to a drug test under certain circumstances, to require the director of Job & Family Services to operate an Ohio Works First drug testing pilot program and to make an appropriation. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- HB 286** **MARRIAGE** (Vitale, N.) To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- Senate Education** (Committee Record) (**Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538**), **Finance Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.**
- HB 299** **AUTISM SCHOLARSHIPS** (Blessing, L., Rezabek, J.) To permit the temporary, legal, or permanent custodian of a qualified child to apply for an Autism Scholarship. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 241 **EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS (LaRose, F.)** With regard to the employment of specified education professionals by city, exempted village, and local school districts. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 252 **CARDIAC ARREST (Hite, C., Patton, T.)** With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076), North Hearing Rm., 4 p.m. or after session

- **Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Frederick Cash, Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission; James Krimmel and John Petkovsek, Environmental Education Council; Kerry Krugh and David Kimberly, Radiation Advisory Council and Craig Porter, Reclamation Commission**

SB 269 **WATER SYSTEMS (Schiavoni, J.)** To require a public water system to provide notice of lead contamination not later than thirty days after becoming aware that lead contamination may effect the system's drinking water, to require the Director of Environmental Protection to provide the notice if the public water system fails to provide it, to require employees of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide continuing assistance to a public water system that fails to provide the required notice of lead contamination, and to require the Director to adopt rules that increase the monitoring frequency for lead and copper under specified circumstances. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 118 **HOUSEHOLD SEWAGE SYSTEMS (Eklund, J.)** To authorize a board of county commissioners or municipal legislative authority to elect to withdraw the county or municipal corporation from the application of any rule adopted after January 1, 2014, by the Department of Health governing the design of household sewage treatment systems. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 185 **IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (Seitz, B.)** To revise the law governing special improvement districts created for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for special energy improvement projects. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Agency Calendar

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8 a.m.

Air Quality Development Authority, 50 W. Broad St., Suite 1718, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Home Weatherization Assistance Program Policy Advisory Council, 77 South High Street, Room 1960, Columbus, 2 p.m.

Event Planner

Housing Ohio 2016 Conference, Sheraton Downtown Columbus, 75 E. State St., Columbus

Ohio Bankers League lobby day

Ohio Right to Life legislative day

Legislative leaders news conference on capital bill, Harding Senate Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

House Democrats news conference on bill to restrict local hiring options, PLAs (SB152), George Washington Williams Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

State leaders news conference on efforts to boost fight against prescription drug abuse, CompDrug Inc., 1420 Fields Ave., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlors A&B, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Individual attendee: \$350 to Friends of Kris Jordan)

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legislative Reception, 52 East Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m.

Bowling Green State University Statehouse Falcons reception, Capital Club, 41 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (RSVP to batesdc@bgsu.edu)

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Tally Ho Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host \$2,500; Chair \$1,000; Sponsor \$500; Individual \$350 to Hackett for Ohio)

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$2,500; Event Sponsor \$1,000; Individual \$500 to Citizens for Obhof)

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, Chintz Room, 121 S. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host - \$1000; Sponsor - \$750; Friend - \$500 to Friends of Sandra Williams)

Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Mark Romanchuk (R-Ontario) fundraiser, Little Palace, 240 S. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Hambley for House Committee and/or Romanchuk for State Rep)

Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy Township) fundraiser, Capital Club, Scarlet & Gray Room, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Ron Young)

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
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Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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From: Snider, Grace
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 11:01 AM
To: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: FW: DataOhio IP Testimony
Attachments: 161204_DataOhio House_Finance_IP_Testimony__(Final).pdf

Could you please send him a witness slip?

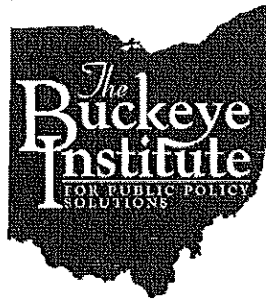
From: Greg Lawson [mailto:greg@buckeyeinstitute.org]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 10:34 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: DataOhio IP Testimony

Grace:

Here is the testimony.

Greg R. Lawson
Statehouse Liaison and Policy Analyst

The Buckeye Institute
88 East Broad Street, Suite 1120 | Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 224-4422 | BuckeyeInstitute.org



**Interested Party Testimony Submitted to the Ohio House
Finance Committee on House Bill 130**

April 20, 2016

**Greg R. Lawson, Statehouse Liaison
The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions**

Thank you Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Schuring, and Ranking Member Driehaus for the opportunity to testify before the Ohio House Finance Committee. My name is Greg R. Lawson. I am the Statehouse Liaison at The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions.

I am here with a few brief remarks regarding House Bill 130, the DataOhio Project. I have previously testified about "DataOhio" and the need for government transparency. I appreciate the chance to revisit the issue today.

The Buckeye Institute has long championed a more transparent government that makes it easier for taxpayers to see and understand how Columbus spends their hard-earned money. Such transparency helps citizens better understand what their government has done, what it is doing, and what remains to be done with their tax dollars. Fiscal transparency helps keep government accountable to the citizenry, fosters a more informed public, and facilitates a better dialogue between the people and their elected representatives.

Recognizing the need for and challenges of providing more fiscal transparency, The Buckeye Institute developed its own searchable database for tracking state spending on salaries for state employees, K-12 teachers, 4-year Higher Education, and select local government employees. Since the database went live in April 2010, it has been searched nearly 13.5 million times. Of course, "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," and The Buckeye Institute's database proved so popular and useful that other private sector organizations, and Ohio's Treasurer of State, now offer similar online services.

Despite its popularity and usefulness, The Buckeye Institute's database is not a comprehensive toolkit. For example, it does not publish information on vendor payments made by localities, and the local component that lists local government salaries remains quite limited. The State Treasurer's office, however, has expanded the state's Ohio Checkbook database so that it now not only offers a similar suite of services, but also provides a full accounting of state expenditures down to the check, and includes Ohio's many local governments. The Treasurer's expansion of Ohio Checkbook has helped to increase transparency dramatically, and just last week the U.S. Public Interest Research Group declared Ohio the most transparent state in the union thanks to Mr. Mandel's efforts. But, as always, there remains room for improvement.

For example, Ohio boasts thousands of local governmental bodies and a labyrinth of taxing authorities. As The Buckeye Institute outlined several years ago:

"As of October 2007, Ohio ranked seventh among states regarding the number of local governmental entities and taxing authorities according to the U.S. Census Bureau, with a staggering 3,702 entities. On average there are over 41 taxing authorities per county, which is 46 percent more than the national average of twenty-eight.

*Ohio had the sixth highest number of municipalities (938) and townships (1,308). There are 614 school districts as well as a myriad of law enforcement and safety entities along with special district governments. Cuyahoga County alone has 104 local government entities."*¹

Without fiscal transparency for Ohio's local governments, taxpayers remain largely in the dark without ready access to vital information needed for holding their elected officials accountable. The DataOhio Project can further promote transparency by developing a standard chart of accounts so that citizens and policymakers can make apples-to-apples comparisons of spending across these diverse local governments. This would help constituents and even lawmakers make better sense of how our local governments operate—an increasingly important issue as the General Assembly debates the adequacy of local government resources.

DataOhio, Ohio Checkbook, and similar efforts by The Buckeye Institute and other private sector organizations can all work together as complementary tools for the common, important purpose of empowering Ohio's taxpayers to raise accountability at all levels of Ohio government.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to answering any questions from the committee at this time.

¹ Greg R. Lawson, "Joining Forces: Consolidation Will Help Ohio's Local Governments if Compensation Package Costs are Properly Managed," The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions, at <http://www.buckeyeinstitute.org/uploads/files/10-31-11-Rethinking-Ohios-Government-Structure-Final%20for%20Release.pdf> (December 6, 2013).

From: Stepp, Taylor
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 11:05 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: RE: DataOhio IP Testimony

Yes!

Taylor Stepp
Legislative Aide for Representative Ryan Smith
77 South High Street, 13th Floor
(614) 466-1366

From: Snider, Grace
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 11:01 AM
To: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: FW: DataOhio IP Testimony

Could you please send him a witness slip?

From: Greg Lawson [<mailto:greg@buckeyeinstitute.org>]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 10:34 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: DataOhio IP Testimony

Grace:

Here is the testimony.

Greg R. Lawson
Statehouse Liaison and Policy Analyst

The Buckeye Institute
88 East Broad Street, Suite 1120 | Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 224-4422 | BuckeyeInstitute.org

From: Lundregan, Scott

Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 11:52 AM

To: Talik, Daniel; Dillon, Jeff; White, Bill; Green, Alexa; Kiessling, Jonas; Thatcher, Todd; Stallard, Nicholas; Boehner, Kevin; Gray, Bryan; Florence, Beth; McCune, Zachery; Miller, Brianna; Stanislaw, Steven; Stanek, Justin; McCoy, Amanda; Zielinski, Justin; Peterson, Sarah; Seeds, Eric; Snider, Grace; Stepp, Taylor; Yogmour, Ali; Yogmour, Andrew; Kromer, Stephanie; Ricketts, Travis; Reed, Bob; Sanders, Lori

Subject: Baccile Request Final Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

All,

Every office of the Caucus has received a public records request for all records mentioning "ALEC," or "American Legislative Exchange Council" from January 1, 2013-October 1, 2015. You are the final group to provide records. If you have already sent me your records please let me know (and I'm sorry!).

As with the Porter request, I have broken the offices into groups and you are the final group. Please search your records for all records mentioning "ALEC" from 2013-October 1, 2015. Search your district inbox, the State Rep address, your email and any personal accounts that may have these records. Please be sure to include 'sent' folders. Please do not include communication from me about public records requests and communication from Mike Lenzo or Tony Bledsoe regarding JLEC.

Once you have found these records please scan them into a document and email me your response. Please send me an email with the document (just put your office name and ALEC as the title of the document) by May 6, 2016.

Please make sure that the scanned in document does not exceed 10MB. If it does, please break the responses into smaller parts and ensure that you are scanning in black and white and the second lowest resolution setting.

If you have a lot of records let me know and we can work out a different timeline if necessary.

Thank you so much for your help with this!

Scott Lundregan

Majority Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

Ohio House of Representatives

614-466-1460

From: Lundregan, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 11:52 AM
To: Talik, Daniel; Dillon, Jeff; White, Bill; Green, Alexa; Kiessling, Jonas; Thatcher, Todd; Stallard, Nicholas; Boehner, Kevin; Gray, Bryan; Florence, Beth; McCune, Zachery; Miller, Brianna; Stanislaw, Steven; Stanek, Justin; McCoy, Amanda; Zielinski, Justin; Peterson, Sarah; Seeds, Eric; Snider, Grace; Stepp, Taylor; Yogmour, Ali; Yogmour, Andrew; Kromer, Stephanie; Ricketts, Travis; Reed, Bob; Sanders, Lori
Subject: Baccile Request Final Group

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If you have a lot of records let me know and we can work out a different timeline if necessary.

Thank you so much for your help with this!

Scott Lundregan
Majority Deputy Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus
Ohio House of Representatives

614-466-1460

From: Lenzo, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 1:08 PM
To: Lenzo, Mike
Subject: JLEC Memo on Political Conventions
Attachments: 2016 JLEC Memo on Political Conventions.pdf

Importance: High

To All House Republican Members and Staff:

Attached you will find the 2016 JLEC memorandum on attending a political convention. With the Republican National Convention being located in Cleveland in July, there will likely be many members and staff who decide to attend the convention in various capacities, as well as many different receptions and other events associated with the convention. The attached JLEC memo will help explain the ethics implications of many of the situations that may arise during the convention.

The most important detail to remember regarding the Republican National Convention is that it is a **campaign event**. The exemption that applies to the meetings of national conferences that the General Assembly pays dues to (such as NCSL, ALEC, CSG, etc) **does not apply to the Republican National Convention.**

There will be many different situations that arise regarding the convention. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Michael Lenzo
Majority Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus
Ohio House of Representatives
614-466-3716

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THE 131ST OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JOINT LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE INSPECTOR GENERAL

50 W. Broad Street, Suite 1308, Columbus, OH 43215 • (614) 728-5100 • www.jlec-olig.state.oh.us

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate and House Caucus Counsel
From: Office of the Legislative Inspector General
Date: April 26, 2016
RE: *Attendance at National Political Party Nominating Conventions*

Members of the General Assembly and legislative staff may be in attendance at the presidential nominating convention ("political convention") for their respective political parties later this summer. In addition to the actual convention, many events will be held in the host cities (RNC - Cleveland and DNC - Philadelphia) at the same time. These events are likely to be hosted by a variety of different organizations. The purpose of this memo is to review the limitations on what may be accepted and the reporting requirements for Members and legislative staff in attendance.¹ This information is applicable to those in attendance whether as Delegates or as general attendees.

I. Financial Disclosure Requirements – Meals and Beverages:

Members and legislative employees² must identify the source of all **official** meals and beverages where the value exceeds \$100, aggregated per calendar year in *Section 10: Meals, Food and Beverages* on their financial disclosure statement. Only meals *incurred in connection* with the person's official duties must be reported on the financial disclosure statement. In order for a meal to be *incurred in connection* with the person's official duties, it is necessary that the functions are related to, or associated with, the individual's position as a public official or employee. Attendance at a political convention is not related to, or associated with, a person's official duties with the General Assembly. Therefore, meals and other food and beverages

¹ Although questions have been raised in the media as to the applicability of R.C. 2921.02 or 3599.01 "Bribery" in the context of national conventions, JLEC's jurisdiction and enforcement authority does not include R.C. 2921.02 or 3599.01 "Bribery". This memorandum addresses expenditure limits applicable in the absence of bribery.

² For financial disclosure reporting purposes, legislative employees are those employees of the General Assembly or any legislative agency that file a financial disclosure statement.

Committee					
Keith Faber Senate President, Chair	Joe Schiavoni Senate Min. Leader	Capri Cafaro Senator	Lou Gentile Senator	Larry Obhof Senator	Scott Oelslager Senator
Cliff Rosenberger Speaker, Vice Chair	Fred Strahorn House Min. Leader	Ron Amstutz Representative	Kevin Boyce Representative	Nicholas Celebrezze Representative	Dorothy Pelanda Representative
Staff Tony Blodoe Executive Director					